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ISSUE

MISSING

THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

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TO OUR READERS.

This number of THE CARPENTER has been delayed for many good reasons, principally the domestic bereavement of our General Secretary. Hereafter this journal will appear on the first of each month, and this change will no doubt be hailed with satisfaction by all our readers.

A JUST DECISION.

The Boss Plasterers' Association of Toronto, Ont., appealed to the courts for an injunction against the Journeymen's Union to restrain them from "intimidating" scabs, who had been procured to fill the places of the strikers. Chief Justice Wilson refused to grant the injunction, stating that the Boss' Association had, by their own conduct, forfeited all claims by blacklisting the strikers and pledging each other not to engage any striker under a penalty of $25. The Judge condemned, in strong terms, the system of blacklisting. This is a victory for labor.

A SOLUTION OF THE PRISON LABOR SYSTEM.

We have always remarked that more statesmanship can be found in the ranks of organized labor than in the halls of Congress or any State Legislature. While legislators are gabbling about some narrow party issue, the Legislative Committee of the Labor Congress of New Jersey have agreed upon the following points in reference to their proposed substitute for the system of contract prison labor: First. the abolition of the contract system; second, that as many prisoners as are necessary shall be employed in producing articles necessary for State institutions; third, that eight hours shall constitute a day's work in prison and reformatory institutions, and that two hours each day be devoted to moral and intellectual instruction of inmates; fourth, that a portion of the earnings of prisoners be placed to their credit, and after the expenses of the cost of their trial, etc., are deducted, the balance to be paid to their wives and families, if they have any, and if they have not, 'to themselves at the expiration of their terms of servitude, and that the balance of the prisoners not needed in the work for the use of the State be employed under the "piece-price system," and that no more than twenty be employed at one branch of business, and that a board of appraisers, consisting of five persons, two wage workers, two business men, and one merchant, with the Warden as an advisory member, be appointed to appraise the value of the products of the goods, to prevent such goods going upon the market at less than market rates.

SUCCESSFUL SUIT FOR BACK PAY.

The Bricklayers' Union of Cleveland, O., adopted a resolution last Spring, making nine hours a day's work on Saturdays. The contractors all paid their men during the season at that rate, but a few weeks ago Eggers & Leopold refused to pay for a full day to their men for Saturday's work. They were sued by a committee of the union and judgment rendered in favor of the workmen. The firm paid over the amount together with the costs of suit, thus scoring a victory for the union. Green and Phibbs were the attorneys—the same who won the suit for Cleveland Carpenters' Union No. 11.

BRICKLAYERS' CONVENTION.

The Bricklayers' International Union has closed its session in Cincinnati. The union will hold its next meeting in Jersey City, Jan 12, 1885. They voted to urge the passage of the bill now pending in Congress to prevent the importation of alien labor under contract. The matter of making eight hours a day's work was referred to the local unions, their votes to be sent in by August. The question of admitting colored bricklayers to the privileges of the Union was very warmly discussed, and it was finally decided to ratify the action of the Unions, two thirds of which had already voted to admit colored men to membership.

John Pearson, No. 1, Illinois, was elected President, George Geib, of Buffalo, N. Y., Vice-president, and Thomas O'Dea, of Cohoes, N. Y., Secretary, Thomas R. Gockel, of Covington, N.Y., Vice-secretary, and P. Murray, of Albany, N.Y., Treasurer.

President Pearson was elected delegate to the Congress of Federation of Trades and Labor at Chicago next fall; a resolution to establish a strike fund by levying a per capita tax of ten cents; a resolution to appoint five vice-presidents in place of one who shall have sole charge of strikes, and another allowing subordinate Unions to extend their jurisdiction as far as is necessary for their protection, were passed.

THE WINDOW GLASS STRIKE.

The committee of the window glass workers and manufacturers assembled to make another effort to settle the protracted strike. Mutual concessions were made and the difficulties brought to an end. The agreement entered into will be submitted to the organization at once. Work will doubtless begin in all the factories able to secure hands in about two weeks.

—Wood-workers, bear this in mind,—wood shrinks in the circumference of the grain, but comparatively nothing in diameter.

—We have 8 dailies (5 English and 3 German), about sixty weeklies and twenty-two monthlies published in the labor interests in the United States.

Several labor bills are now pending in Congress, to secure the enforcement of the Eight Hour Law, also to create a National Bureau of Labor Statistics, and to equalize the pay of men and women employes of the Government wherever equal service is performed. There are bills to stop the importation of foreign contract labor, and to secure an amendment to the U. S. Constitution, stopping the prison contract system. It is expected some of these measures will be passed.

—Adirondack Murray thus rails at poverty: "Oh, cursed poverty! I know thee to be of Satan, for I myself have eaten at thy scanty table, and slept in thy cold bed. And never have I seen thee bring one smile to human lips, or dry one tear as it fell from a human eye. But I have seen thee sharpen the tongue of billing speech, and harden the heart. Ay, I have seen thee make even the presence of love a burden, and cause the mother to wish that the babe nursing her scant breast had never been born."

—GLYCERINE GLUE.—A German chemist has discovered that the strength of glue is very greatly increased by the addition of one-fourth as much glycerine as glue.

AGITATION IN NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, N. S.—On January 21st and 22nd, P.J.McGuire lectured in the Lyceum in this city, under the auspices of the Amalgamated Trades Unions of Halifax and Dartmouth. On Jan. 21, his subject was "The Working Class its History and Struggles." On the platform were seated the mayor of the city, and many distinguished citizens. Lieut. Governor Ritchey presided. The band of the Garrison Artillery furnished several fine selections of music, and the hall was crowded by an audience of intelligent workingmen and citizens. On the following evening the question of "Trades Unionism and the Labor Question" was treated by the lecturer. We regret you have not the space to reproduce at least one of these lectures, as both of them were very fully given by the daily papers. On the third evening Bro. McGuire spoke on the practical work of Trades Unions, and especially to the Carpenters' Union of Halifax, which will result in that union joining the Brotherhood. Later in the evening a trades union banquet took place at which toasts were drank in water and responded to by various gentlemen, "Our Brotherhood" and "The Trades and Labor Unions of the United States" were subjects of toasts.

The visit of Bro. McGuire has awakened a live interest in the labor movement in Halifax. It is the first occasion of the kind in the city and has stirred comment of a very favorable character among all classes. Not a daily paper has dared to say a word in opposition and nearly a dozen new trades and labor societies are now under way. We have our own trades union hall in this city, leased of course, but it looks as if before a few years we may be able to build one of our own. Two years ago trades unionism had no hold here, then carpenters worked for 90 cents a day! Now we have a good strong carpenters union, and our wages are $1.40 to $1.65. Besides that the Bricklayers, Painters, Bakers, Printers, Ship Carpenters, Plasterers, Labor s and Caulkers have since organized. More next time.

JOHN SAXTON.

NOT CLARK'S THREAD, BUT SINGER'S SEWING MACHINE.

In our last we called attention to the attitude of the Clark Estate in fighting the organized unions of the building trades of this city, and in refusing to hire union men and pay union wages. On that account we advised all working men to boycott Clark's thread. But upon closer inquiry it is discovered that Edward Clark, the culpable party, is not interested in Clark's thread, but is the President of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and holds a large interest in that concern. Therefore we say let the boycotting war commence against the Singer Sewing Machine.

—The girls in New Orleans, La., cotton mills have struck against going to work before daylight.

—There is a large strike of the workers in the tobacco factories of Petersburgh, Va., against an reduction in wages.

—A bill will be introduced into the Ohio legislature making it a felony for a man to sign an "iron clad" oath.

—The Court of Appeals in this state has decided that the law forbidding the manufacture of cigars in tenement houses is unconstitutional.

TRADE NOTES.

—Shorter hours of labor is the question now agitating the labor societies of this city.

—This city is swarming with carpenters of all kinds, from a buck saw chip to a saw and hatchet man.

—The labor organizations of the United States have a membership of 350,000. those of England 600,000.

—The English iron workers have refused to come here to take the places of the men on strike in Pennsylvania.

—Silk weavers of Paterson, N. J., are holding out well in their strike for unpaid work and an equalized scale of wages.

—Fourteen labor bills are now pending in Congress, and surely we ought to have some of them passed, Let us stir ourselves for that purpose.

—Sign the petition for the abolition of contract imported labor. Petitions can be had by applying to John Flannery, 125 5th Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

—At last a Trades Assembly is in course of formation in Pittsburgh, Pa. It is much needed. One has been started in Baltimore, Md.

— The question of reducing the hours of labor of conductors and drivers of horse cars is being vigorously agitated in the New York State Legislature.

—Carpenters work is extremely dull at all points owing to the severity of the weather, and has not been as dull for several years. but all the indications point to a very busy spring,

—They arrest men looking for work in New Jersey and put them with the chain gang to break stone. And yet Titus Sheard, the speaker of the Legislature of this State, was once a tramp.

—The employes of Higgins & Co., New York, carpet manufacturers, were out on strike nearly two months against a reduction of 10 per cent in wages, and returned to work practically the victors.

—Twenty-five coal miners at Buena Vista, Pa., have been arrested for conspiracy. And yet we live in a free country which is said to recognize the right of a combination of men to do that which any one can do individually.

—It is a penal offence in Maryland for a man to belong to a trade union. But all honor to Governor McLane; he has taken the initiative in breaking down such barbarism. His special message on labor legislation surgests 6 practical measures.

—Ship carpenters, look out for the Saginaw valley. There are more men here now than there is work, and wages have been reduced 50 cents per day. If you should see an advertisement for ship carpenters, you can make up your mind that the object is to reduce wages again.—Bay City, Mich., *Vindicator.*

—John Roach's-High-Tariff-on-Steel National-Labor-Conference was held in Philadelphia, Pa., on January 12. It was attended by some 30 or 40 men who represented no one—not even themselves. For John Roach owns them. And they can't the market for any one else—even a Horse Trader—if they can get a better price. Honest workingmen take no stock in the political dodges of ward strikers. When they want a Labor Conference it will be called by recognized trades and labor bodies of the country and not

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A GOLDEN AGE.

Mr. Thorald Rogers, in a new work on the history of agricultural prices in England, avers that the 15th and the early part of the 16th century was a golden age for the laboring people in England. The critical students of Shakespeare have often noted that it was a period of great enjoyment of life, and they think that the sudden outburst of poetry and art of the Elizabethan age was due to this commercial prosperity in great part. There must be a physical basis for culture.

CABINET MAKERS IN GERMANY.

The cabinetmakers in Munich have an organization of 1100 members, and initiate new members at the rate of 30 or 40 a week. They have a labor bureau of their own, open at certain hours each day, not only for union men, but for non-union men, too. Travelling union members are lodged over night, and taken care of at the expense of the union. A free evening school for mechanical and architectural drawing has been founded, and is well attended by the members. Every two weeks lectures on medicine and scientific subjects are delivered by prominent scientists, under the auspices of the union. This shows a very progressive spirit, although the union is only started since last June. In Bremen the cabinetmakers union numbers one half of the craft in the city. A national congress of the trade will soon be held. The *Neue Tischler Zeitung* is the organ of the cabinetmakers unions all over Germany, and unions are springing up very rapidly, after years of slumber and indifference.

CARPENTRY IN OLDEN TIMES.

...arly English times very little that ...bles modern joinery existed, every ...being rude, and united in an artless ...

DE...

...Saturday. The first accurate and neat ...manship was in the stalls, pulpits and ...ns of cathedrals and churches, and ...urniture of the abbeys, but this was ...e most simple kind. As time went ...here was more neatness, soundness and accuracy in work. When plain surfaces of considerable width and length were introduced, as is in wainscoting, the surfaces were commonly formed of inch, or inch and a quarter, boards, joined with glue, and a cross or feather tongue ploughed into each joint. When the boards were glued together and had become dry, tapering pieces of wood, called keys, were grooved in across the back with a dovetailed groove, the keys preserving the surface straight and also allowing it to shrink and expand with the changes of the weather. In fixing landings of stairs, tops of tables, &c., sometimes a wide board, or a piece consisting of several boards, was fixed by means of buttons *screwed* to the back, which turned into grooves in the framing, bearers or joints to which it was fixed. If any shrinking took place the buttons slid in the grooves. In forming architraves, the simple methods of ploughing and tongueing work together was followed, providing effectually against the greatest defect of timber work, its shrinkings. By this method the bold moldings of Gothic architecture were executed with a comparatively small amount of material. In laying floors, the tongue was ploughed into each joint. Ordinarily the boards were only tacked down the first year, and nailed down for good next year, allowing of correcting any tendency to rise, or the opening of joints. In most old structures the floor is laid with remarkable ...nness and accuracy, the boards being ...dly fixed to the joints. In oak floors the ...ds were forked together. In hanging doo... centres were often used instead of hing... . Of the various kinds of hinges, some were concealed, but more projected, the door folding back over projecting moldings. In stairs the rise or tread of the ... found to be very moderate. W... airs were seldom ... rectangular, with ... In some ... ferent ...

HISTORY OF BORING TOOLS.

A writer says: "The first-boring tool may be assumed to be an awl of some kind. Pliny states that Dedalus invented the gimlet in 1240 B. C. It was destitute of a screw point, but it may have had a hollow pod, and a cross-head forming a handle. Awls are shown in Egyptian tombs of 1706 and 1490 B. C. The screw was added to the gimlet in course of time, and within our own recollection the twisted shank, which makes it self-discharging. The hint was taken from the auger proper, which may be called a magnified gimlet, now that their specific features have become so closely assimilated in form and function. The auger (*terebra*) was a Greek tool.

From the early descriptions the auger seems to have been considered a shipwright's tool. It formerly had a curved sharpened end, and a concavity to hold the chips; this was a pod auger. To this a lip was subsequently added for some kinds of boring, and in course of time the depression grew into a spiral, which allows the chips to escape while the boring proceeds, instead of withdrawing the tool as the pod becomes filled. The twisted auger is the American invention, and was made by Lilley, of Mansfield, Conn., about the beginning of the present century, and afterward by Gurley, of the same place.

Augers may be classified as annular augurs, taper augers, augers with secondary bores, reamers, or countersinks, or having expansive cutters.

THE NEW UNION IN ST. LOUIS.

A new branch of Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners has been organized in St. Louis and chartered as Union No. 5. The charters formerly held by Unions 6, 12 and 14 have been revoked, and but one union will hereafter be recognized in St. Louis. Union No. 5 is officered by progressive men, and its membership is said to be increasing rapidly.

The newly-organized union, No. 5, of the National Brotherhood of Carpenters requires a stringent standard of qualification for membership, each applicant being obliged to prove himself a thorough workman. Of this order it may be said that many are called but few are chosen, for of thirty-nine candidates at the last meeting only eleven passed muster. The union will aim to be preeminently practical. One of the features of the regular meeting will be black-board exercises, in which various members will exemplify the best way of doing a specified bit of work, and especial attention will be paid to the latest methods and designs in all the building trade.

In talking with a CHRONICLE reporter yesterday, one of the Union said: "The public must not think we are warring on all the contractors. We are friendly to all who are doing business legitimately, and there are very many such men who are willing to do the fair thing all around; but the fact is that they are scabbed to death. We hope to have their sympathy and aid in cleaning out unworthy members of the building trade. Union No. 5 has fifty-three members, all of whom have paid $5 initiation fee. Papers are circulating for signatures for unions in Central St. Louis and South St. Louis, with no doubt of success.—*St. Louis Chronicle.*

WANTS A GENERAL ORGANIZER.

I don't know what your idea is, but I want an organizer, and I am willing to pay five dollars per year, or more if it is necessary, rather than be without one. I will subscribe twenty dollars per year. My opinion is we will either die or be on the drag for years to come if we don't come to the front. We are not putting forth the energies we ought. Every man can spare a dollar for that purpose. The president ought to call for it, because every man has promised to do all he can for the cause. You know we are not doing it. You know all the brothers that will respond to this fund? Can't we do something more toward progression, so we can get along faster. Every man's business is nobody's business. If we had a new union attached to us every week it would give life and encouragement to us. All I hope is if there is nothing done in this respect before our next convention, this one thing will be provided for.

J. K. V. HITESIDE,

...anapolis,

HOME-MADE FURNITURE.

Now that the winter season is upon us once more, we renew the suggestion made to joiners a year ago, that they spend a portion of their leisure time in designing and executing articles of furniture. Numerous letters were received in answer to our suggestion, requesting the *Builder* to furnish designs; and we complied with these requests as far as possible. But designs of the class referred to are exceedingly difficult to obtain.

Our joiners ought certainly to be able to design many useful articles of furniture, and they would, if they could but cut loose from a pernicious habit of trying to imitate the bad things made and sold by the furniture dealers. Any good joiner can design and put together an elegant easy chair for instance. He need not copy anything he has seen. He will require good hard wood—oak, ash, or black walnut,—a simple but solid framework; when finished, to rest on castors, and be upholstered. He wants to know, when he begins, that the natural color of wood is the richest color it can have; that varnish, and even oil, are to be discarded in finishing. Let him make his chair large enough, and put enough wood in it; and then let him set to work and carve it according to the best of his ability.

Such a chair, made honestly, will be handed down as an heirloom in the family from generation to generation, the color of the wood improving with age.

We are well aware that to many this home-made furniture will appear coarse and uncouth, but it will bear the test of intelligent criticism after all. To the uneducated eye nothing appears more vulgar than such a table as Mr. Eastlake gives us a picture of in his book. Our modern Mrs. Grundy would consider it fit only for kitchen or laundry, but then that is because Mrs. Grundy herself is a vulgar woman. When she select furniture she never considers the questio of durability; what she wants is prettines...

We saw recently, in an office in Boston, a chair made for the celebrated John Hancock, and used by him, and it seemed good for a hundred years to come. It was just such a chair as any good joiner could make, and worth more at the present time for service than any half-dozen to be had of a modern dealer.

Now-a-days one scarcely ever sees a good bit of wood carving, and for the reason that workers in wood seem to have lost all interest in this beautiful art. And yet we can think of no more delightful employment than this, for one who has learned the use of tools, and who has in his soul a love of the beautiful. The old joiners have left us many precious mementoes of their skill. They did not copy from each other, but went straight to nature. If one wanted to carve a medallion, he took for a copy the living subject, or if it was a leaf, he copied a real leaf; and he put his soul in it, and this is why his work lives to-day, and is sought after by art connoisseurs.

A bedstead, veneered with burl walnut, is worth in the market not far from one hundred dollars, and if very elaborate, with different woods, several times this sum. But a bedstead in solid oak or black walnut, richly carved, would be a much more elegant and more valuable piece of work; indeed it would command a higher price. Any joiner can make a massive and substantial bedstead from the solid wood, and many a one could carve it admirably if he would devote a little of his leisure time to the practice of this art. We ask our readers if these things are not worth thinking of.—*Builder and Wood Worker.*

Toledo, Ohio

Work is entirely suspended, except small repair jobs inside and which are very few. There is a great deal of resident property changing hands just now, which would indicate that a good many contemplate building, for as real estate is very steady, there are very few buying for speculation, and rents are very high and will continue so until there are more houses built.

So far this year there have been 17 building permits issued, all for small structures, ranging in price from $200 to $250. There are several plans for good houses out, and some small jobs let, for which no permit has been taken out yet. The contract for the new State Asylum has been confirmed and will be begun as soon as Spring opens. It consists of 36 buildings, each one separated from the other by covered walks. The contractors for the new bridge had fairly got to work and were fairly pushing right ahead, when the last cold snap stopped them, and they will not do much now until the ice goes out, for the prospects of a great flood are getting better every day and many look for a worse time than last year. The Iron Molders' Union were on a strike here against a reduction of wages, and after holding out two weeks they weakened and most of the men went to work, entirely disgusted and disheartened.

LABOR LEGISLATION OF NO... WITHOUT LABOR ORGANIZA...

The following opinion tersely ex... by Andrew Roy, late State Mine In... of Ohio, is fully shared in by us:

"I have looked with some attent... many years at the labor questi... have watched with interest the v... efforts of the workingmen of Amer... ameliorate their condition. In my o... there is too much attention placed ... the effect of legislation for the bette... of the working classes. Good labo... will accomplish little or nothing if ... ingmen have not the ability or the v... enforce them. A laboring man cou... nothing fighting a corporation single-h... ed, but an organization of workin... with properly directed effort is an irr... ible power. We hear complaints ev... week by miners against the store-orde... check systems—that the law is disrega... ed, and calls are made for more string... legislation on the subject. If the Mine... Union, backed up by the miners of Oh... were to attack the system, employ... competent lawyers, they could destroy ... in twelve months. The system exist... violation of the law, not so much by th... avarice of mining operators as by the in... becility of miners. The same thing migh... be said about the mining law. An army o... inspectors will not enforce the law if the... miners do not take some interest in the... matter themselves, and in an intelligen... manner stand by the inspector. Every... accident, resulting in personal injury or... loss of live, should be prosecuted, if such... accident were caused by carelessness or... negligence on the part of employers or... their agents. A single individual or a... poor widow cannot fight a rich company... or powerful corporation. But the Miners'... Union, backed up by the miners, could do... it and defy their vengeance.

Toronto, Canada.

New officers of Union No. 27 are: President, A. Bell; Vice-Pres., R. Gunn; Rec. Sec., D. Boyde; Cor. Sec., J. Bedford; Treas., R. See; Conductor, A. Edgar; Warden, W. Travis; Trustees, C. Armstrong, R. Stevens and J. McKenlay; Delegates to the Trades and Labor Council, J. Bedford, A. Edgar and P. Holmes. We are expecting another severe struggle. The Bricklayers' Union were notified that a 25 cents per day reduction would be made after April 1st. The feeling now is that it will be resisted. I may also say that we were successful at our shop in a petition for Saturday half holiday in Winter as well as Summer; we now quit work at 12 o'clock on Saturdays all the year round. We have some union men who cannot or will not see the advantages of shorter hours, they can only see the present loss and are stupidly blind as to results which must inevitably follow.

Benecia, Cal.

The average wages are $2.50 to $3.50. The nine-hour system is under consideration by the union. Business moderate; most all union men at work. Provisions are high, also the rent of cottages. Prices of lumber are outrageously high; all under the control of monopolies. We have formed a corporation here with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, divided into one thousand shares at the par value of five dollars each, for the purpose of contracting and building. No man is allowed to purchase capital stock without first belonging to some mechanics union. The By-Laws of said company are not to conflict with the By-Laws of the Union. The Contracting & Building Co. are working under the nine-hour system, and in time will bring things round just right. We expect in connection with the union to produce one of the grandest systems of doing business that has ever been produced.

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A POWERFUL PLEA FOR ORGANIZATION.

Delivered Recently at Market Hall, Georgetown, D. C., by G. Edmonston.

So many different opinions exist as to what is trades unionism outside the limits of such organizations, that a few moments spent in explanation of its objects, may not be out of place on an occasion like the present.

Trades Unionism has for its foundation principles that have commanded the respect of the wisest and most humane of mankind. So also has it been feared by those self-constituted rulers who, to satisfy their lust for power, have deluged this fair earth in human blood. The great underlying principle of this organization is, that they who produce this world's wealth should have their equitable share of it.

It does not require lengthy argument to convince a thinking man that the toilers do not own the wealth they create. That the largest part is taken from them in mysterious ways, and under the color of laws they have no hand in creating.

Seeking a remedy to educate our class, to harmonize our interests, rescue our families from the misery and uncertainty despoiling our firesides, when we declare that greed for wealth has polluted public opinion fostered political evils, and made Labor the bond slave of Capital, we are denounced as violators of Order and Right. Yet nothing can be truer than the rapid increase of wealth in the hands of the few, is an investiture of power over the worker, enabling the holder "to buy labor in the cheapest market," starve it into submission, to dictate laws for its performance, and this not alone in one branch of labor, but is rapidly monopolizing all the vast industrial interests of the world. Almost daily the power of the capitalists increases, more entirely subjugating the people by impoverishing them, crushing out their energies, their pride, and all that makes life dear. All along the highways of commerce there lurk numberless bands of robbers who lay tribute on production to satisfy their demands for all the profit that trade will bear. So well organized are they, so thorough the bond of sympathy, and so completely do their interests dovetail into each other, that it seems to a casual observer impossible to uproot the evil, unless the very foundations of society are scattered with their systems. But, fortunately for mankind, the power of combination among men is now acknowledged to be second to omnipotence only.

It is becoming an admitted, recognized fact, that trades-unions are not alone protective to the workingmen, but the surest and best aid to rightous legislation.

In England they have accomplished a grand work. The government recognizes their rights, consults their opinions, and weighs their power. Their activity and strength has removed their political disabilities, and while acquiring political power, marches steadily forward in the path of progress, and Labor emancipation.

Few can compute the moral force of numbers, the good that can be accomplished by united efforts; abuses can be swept aside, arbitrary rules rescinded, and hours of labor shortened. These are only a few of the reforms embraced under an organization of Labor. There are other practical advantages of a lasting character, best told in the meetings of the unions.

The benevolent features of trades organizations fill a long felt want, that has been supplied in part by orders and insurance corporations in the past. We are now perfecting this feature in our own Union, and will very soon be able to fill this want, at a nominal cost to our members. The necessity for adopting this feature received an impetus on last Friday, that will not soon be forgotten, in the death of a sober, industrious carpenter, entirely destitute. Through no fault of his own, was he dependent on the charity of his fellow workmen; but for them he would to-night be resting in the Potters' Field. Paralyzed for more than a year, he tried to save his family from want, even when his paralyzed throat refused the food necessary to sustain his strength. But for the generosity of his "boss," and his fellow workmen, he might have died of starvation months ago. Who robbed this man of the means to support himself in his afflicted condition, and turned him out to die like an old broken-down horse? It was the non-adjustment of the wage system to the spirit of civilization. A system that compels one man to become the victim of another. That exacts all the surplus product to support luxurious ease and licentious folly. A system that compels women and children to compete with man, in the struggle for bread, and crowding out a sufficient number, by long hours of toil, keeps the supply of labor largely in excess of the demand. This excess of labor nullifies all individual efforts to reform abuses, and must be considered as the most important factor we have to deal with.

How can employment be given to those who are seeking it, is the principal question that is pressing for an answer. It is true that the number of unemployed workmen is less at present than it has been; but is there any intelligent man who supposes the present flush times will last?

If we wait until the crisis is on us before we consider the proper mode of action, we will be in a worse condition to apply the remedy than now. Shorter hours of labor will give us a protective tariff of our own, equal to 20 per cent on the value of our labor. This is a tariff that cannot be monopolized by the few.

Poverty is a fact; wealth is a factor, these facts are factors in the sum of human life.

An excess of one brings misery and want with all its attendant evils! An excess of the other reverses the picture.

It means, more continuous employment, steadier wages, employment seeking the idle, instead of the idle hunting for a job, and undoubtedly tends to increase wages.

The use of labor saving machinery can in this way be made a blessing instead of a curse to civilization. Under the old system of work, when 26 flooring boards were considered a days work: a four paneled door out of the rough, the same—ten hours might have then been a necessity to cheapen the cost of building. But now flooring, doors, sash, blinds, molding, and in short nearly all the work is done by a cast-iron-journeyman that never strikes for better wages, and at a cost that adds but little to the value of the material. The human journeyman looks on and sees the machine filling his place; but the idea of taking any advantages of the improvement does not strike his mind as practical. He sees his fellow workman looking for work, and imagines him to be an enemy, because he has to make a bargain for wages. The fear that his needs may compel him to take less than the standard price, converts him into a foe. And instead of working less hours and making room for him, he strikes against him, until he agrees to demand the same wages as himself.

The machinery goes steadily on turning out the work of thousands, attracting but little attention, but doing what thousands of non-union men could not do—working for no wages compared to what the human being would be compelled to ask.

Strikes have had their uses, but they have not given us additional employment, and are palliatives that cure the disease but for a short time only, a few months, and the same dose has to be taking over again; and so on year after year, while our trade is fast sinking into dishonor. The bitter experiences of these struggles have made many cautious, not because they are timid, but because they do not see any permanent result. Trades-unionism has done much to remove the necessity for strikes, and the American workmen will yet learn how to avoid them, by a wiser course of arbitration and conciliation, as our English brothers have done.

We can not hope for eight hours to be established by law, and it was sheer folly to expect it from that source. We must rely on ourselves, and it is well that it is so, because it simplifies the situation and gives us an opportunity of asserting our position by fair and legimate means.

Individual efforts can count only as units composing organization. Without a trades-union you might as well undertake to bottle up gravitation as to attempt to shorten the hours of labor by disjointed efforts. As long as there exists a large number of non-union men who are satisfied to give ten hours for a day's work and receive enough to buy what food and clothes they need for present use; just as long as they are willing to work in summer and fall and remain idle in the winter and spring and take the chances of accident and disease, pauperizing their families, just so long will we be compelled to wait and hope for a change of heart—or change the philosophy of our plan of salvation (for our trade) and introduce new articles of faith in our creed.

Gratitude for benefits you have received during the [illegible] years should be sufficient cause [illegible] act promptly.

I will make an assertion, and stand ready to prove it, that no carpenter with the ordinary amount of intelligence will undertake to say that wages in this city would have advanced without the efforts of Carpenters' Union, No. 1, during the past year or two, although there was plenty of work. Furthermore, I will undertake to say, no carpenter, "boss" or journeyman, with good sound judgment and common sense, will deny the need for organization and publicly defend the assertion. Many vainly imagine that it is to their interest to have nothing to do with trades organizations, that they can save the few paltry cents required for dues, and get the same wages as union men, any how. Probably they can, but they do not consider that a day lost now and then in looking for "scab" shops amounts to many times what they would pay as dues, while the advantages they would receive in the way of information would repay many times the small amount required for dues. Ask yourselves the question: Does it pay to be a non-union man? Can you give any intelligent excuse for your course? You might plead poverty, but that is the very best reason for joining, because it is the object of trades-unions to better your financial condition. If you are independent of work, and wages are no consideration, why do you continue working? If you intend to work at it for years to come, is it not the part of wisdom to use every effort to better the condition of the trade, with the full knowledge that you will be the gainer by your action.

A word or two in reference to strikes and I am done. We do not give up the right of strikes; neither do we seek them, for experience has taught us it is better to avoid them if possible. But if they must be used, then the accumulations of organizations are the only means to make them a success. The strike benefits are the sinews of war which enable the trades-unionist to fight the battle of wages to a successful termination. Without them he must succumb through want alone, no matter how stout-hearted he may be.

Once more I entreat you who do not belong to a trades-union, especially those of my own trade, to decide at once and give your name as willing to try and do your share in the work we have started out to accomplish. For the sake of yourself, your family, and your trade hesitate no longer. And if you will, I will promise you that you will have no cause to regret your action, provided you make proper use of the advantages our Brotherhood holds out.

"In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle,
Be a hero in the strife."

Hamilton, Canada.

The carpenter trade here is dull and owing to the severe cold, business is almost suspended. Union No. 18 is prospering. We have a Tool Insurance against fire and theft, and also a sick benefit of three dollars per week, and a medical attendant. The Iron Moulders of this city accepted the 20 per cent reduction and there is talk they will strike in the spring. All the other trades are dull and a great many men out of employment. New officers: President, Robert Ritch; Vice-Pres., John Butterworth; Rec. Sec'y, John McKenzie; Fin. Sec'y, W. H. Fogwell; Cor. Sec'y, James Amess; Conductor, Thos. Dreaver; Warden, Jos. Midwinter; Trustees, Jos. Vandusen, Jos. Fletcher, Edwin Furneaux.

Portland, Oregon.

Our union has elected the following officers to serve the ensuing six months: President, D. C. McDonald; Vice-Pres., J. L. Johnson; Rec. Sec., E. T. Carr; Cor. Sec., Wm. Krider; Fin. Sec., G. R. Hewitt; Treas., James Doherty; Conductor, John Bell; Warden, B. H. Barclay; Trustees, one year, G. H. Sirecks, E. Moran, Chas. Henderson; Trustees, six months, Jno. W. Morrison, S. Gubson. The attendance in our union for the last month has been very slim, but we hope for a revival in the Spring. One reason for this is, times are very dull, a great many of the union boys are out of work. This Winter has been the hardest for carpenters for several years, there is scarcely any building going, and what little there is, one can not work outside on account of so much rain. There is not more than half of the carpenters at work, but they will be all employed again as soon as Spring opens; there is plenty of building in architects' offices. Portland Union No. 50 is going to give a ball on the 17th of January, and, judging from the interest the members take, it will be a success financially, and besides proving a good advertisement for us. Since work has got slack, several of our members have left for other fields, but they all paid up their dues in advance; we intend to give the contractors and architects three months notice of our intention of working nine hours instead of ten for aday's work, after the 1st of May, 1884. Some of the contractors favor our union. Our initiation fee has been raised from $1.00 to $2.50, and we started in on January 1, with 50 cents monthly dues. We have a good showing in the treasury for three months, with our heavy expenses in starting the union. The boys are always anxious to read THE CARPENTER, for by that they can tell how work is in the different parts of the country.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Of all the dirty towns this beats them. The houses are dirty, the snow is dirty, the grub is dirty, the streets are worse; dirt, dirt everywhere. Why there is not a spoonful of clean dirt in the whole place; the streets are piled up with great soot-besmired snow banks, and the slush and dirt together make a paste that surpass any Philadelphia pie.

The other day I met a colored hod-carrier on the building here—a red hot society man. He must have smelled unionism about me, for he tackled me at once. He said: "I knows you're one ob us!" I told him I belonged to the Brotherhood and not to K. of L. Whereupon he replied: "Oh! dat am all right, it am all the same ting. You may not belong to the same regiment or company we dose, but we belong to de same army, and you am fiting for yo' rights like we is, and it done gone make no matter what you belong to. Do your duty as a labor man, and you am all right." That's what I call logic. Other K. of L. men might profit by it. If they would consider that all organized labor were in the same army and work together as brothers, it would be better for all.

—Maker of musical instruments, cheerfully rubbing his hands: "There, thank goodness, the bass fiddle is finished at last!" After a pause: "Ach, Himmel, if I haven't gone and left the glue-pot inside!"

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THE CARPENTER.

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P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary,

184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY, 1884.

—In this great age of invention, steam and electricity, it is a shame to think that we must still work ten hours a day, and even then be robbed of the larger part of the wealth we produce.

—Free Schools and the mastery of the capitalists over labor cannot exist together. The masses can no longer be kept in ignorance and told to be content with their condition. They will have their own and are organizing to get it.

Boycott the New York *Tribune!* It has had the bad faith to break its contract with Typographical Union No. 6, of New York, which bound it to hire none but union men, and to pay the union scale. It has locked out its union men without any cause.

—A member of the master Plasterers' Association of Toronto, that locked out their men, had his aldermanic aspirations lately curbed very summarily by the workingmen. He got 102 votes while the lowest candidate on the same ticket received 441 votes!

ATH OF MRS. McGUIRE.

rday, January 26, 1884, at 11.20 MARGARETTA V. McGUIRE, the ife of our General Secretary, N Or S died of consumption, after long and several years of sickness. n Guire was out of the city at the b a visit to the Halifax Carpenters a learned the sad news upon his turn Monday morning, Jan. 28. The neral took place on the 30th inst. He sires to return his sincere thanks to the ious unions and members, who so ernally sent him letters and resolus of condolence and sympathy. They e given him renewed fortitude to bear under his affliction, and such meoes of friendship will ever remain ateful remembrance.

DON'T WAIT TOO LONG.

We call attention to Ex-Pres. Bro. Allen's etter on "Our Brotherhood Laws," published this month. In many respects this plan of popular suffrage has been recently ntroduced in our Brotherhood to the enre satisfaction of the vast majority of our mbers. But now is the time before the xt convention to take up this matter and ther questions of kindred importance, nd discuss them thoroughly. There are ny changes required in our laws. It won't ait until the last moment and then work in a hap-hazard manner. Now e time for the members to be heard. d the columns of our journal are open hat purpose. State your views clearbrief and to the point. A few note paper filled with strong tripped of all unnecessary adjecbeless verbiage, will have their brothers, give us your opinnd let the local unions take s and discuss them. Don't days before the convenpe too late.

SUPPORT THE LABOR BILLS.

The present session of Congress has an opportunity now to deal with the labor question in all its legislative aspects. Speaker Carlisle has formed a Standing Committee on Labor. Bills in relation to the labor interests have been showered in upon Congress from all quarters, and whether the members mean to consign them to the waste basket is for us to ascertain.

There are many good bills we would like to see passed, but for the present we will rest content, if we can secure the passage of Senator Blair's bills this session, one in favor of a stringent enforcement of the Eight-Hour Law, the other for the creation of a National Bureau of Labor Statistics.

We would also like to see the bill passed to stop the importation of foreign labor imported under contract, and also one to legalize trades and labor unions as national institutions.

On all these four bills there is not a dissenting voice among the labor organizations. Upon these measures we are united and we want them! Let us tell our Congressmen so, and tell them it emphatically. From every State let letters be sent to the Senators and Representatives in Congress, urging them to work for these measures. Incessant letters and resolutions of trades and labor unions with society seal attached, should rain in now upon each and every Congressman. That has more weight than petitions were they miles long. Call upon your Congressmen to bring these bills up out of committee, and have them reported on favorably and passed. We want no shirking or dodging. These measures are more important to us than tariff tinkering and "bloody shirt" issues. And when these measures are ready for vote, let us pour in a deluge of telegrams and messages to instruct Congressmen to vote for these bills. We must be all alive to this occasion or we may not have a like opportunity for some time.

DENIS KEARNEY PRAISED.

We have received the following letter, which we publish, to show that we have no desire to suppress it. The writer says the Chicago Carpenters Union wants an answer. But up to date we have not been so informed in any official manner. The letter itself is only a fair sample of how far men can be carried away by hero worship and by their prejudices, so that they cannot see the wrong-doing of the man they admire. Our California friends know Kearney's treachery full well. The very fact that Kearney will not become a member of any labor organization only a political one, is enough to show where he stands. He is a politician of the first water, and a slippery one at that. When in New York recently he visited Huntingdon and other magnates of the Central Pacific Railroad Ring, and unless he was here in their interest, as was charged, we do not see why he should visit them if he were honestly engaged in the labor movement. Such men as Kearney always ride to the top in every movement, but they soon go to the bottom afterwards. Here is the letter:

"Do you call yourself the editor of a workingman's paper? If you do I say you are a hypocrite and a liar! I have been in California five years. I know the Workingmen's Party of California. I know how it started, how it was abused and crucified. I know the sufferings and trials of poor Denis Kearney, a man who went into prison, a man who faced the world, a man who could not be bought for all the gold in California. Show me a man to-day in the United States who would face danger and prison for the workingman as he did. I say he was a fair and square man, honest and full of principle, but abused and slandered by a miserable bought-up capitalist press of California. Investigate before you abuse a man like him. If your paper will be published for twenty-five years it will not do as much good as Kearney did in six weeks. Shame on you and your paper. And I will do all I can to prevent people from taking your paper any longer from this very day on. I consider myself too respectable to give you my name, because it would be an insult to me just as well as to Mr. Denis Kearney.

"I AM A CARPENTER BY TRADE.

"Chicago, Ill., Jan. 15, 1884."

WHAT IS THE MINIMUM OF WAGES?

What is the minimum of wages upon which a man can live? No man has the right to waste his physical constitution in the service of another. We acknowledge that principle by our laws. It is carefully ascertained by boards what amount of food prisoners and paupers require, and gaol and workhouse officials are prevented from interfering with the dietary, on the ground that a man is entitled to leave the gaol or the workhouse with his constitution unimpaired. The difference between the cost of prison and pauper fare is the difference created by involuntary combination and by competition. Beyond that a freeman, in the exercise of his industry, has the right to expect a remuneration to enable him to enjoy his life to a reasonable extent, and also to meet the demands of a family. Employers are always under a temptation to try and obtain reduction of wages. Modern luxury has led to habits which have created artificial necessities in the eyes of employers and their families. And to provide for these luxuries they often impose an unnecessary reduction of ten or twenty per cent in the wages of employes. The difference of ten per cent may just be the difference between what is necessary to sustain life in health, and to have life subject to the inroads of disease. The people are to work as an army of industry, to toil, to do battle with the elements of earth, air, and water, to take all the dangers, while they take all the profits. The science of political economy is interpreted by these great ones of Capital in a sense consistent with these views. They shut out the human side of the question, and treat bone, muscle and sinew as they would treat the hire of a coach or of a yacht. Thus the people go on year after year finding an existence, and at last dying in the service of an industry which for them has no hope beyond a decent grave. The people endure this, and to some extent it is the fault of the people themselves. They do not resist where resistance is justifiable, but happily there is a change coming over us of the most hopeful promise. We have never had the question settled how a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, since the abolition of feudalism, is to be ascertained. Then the lord had to keep his villeins, and he did it by assigning to them fields on his "estate." Then came a day when it was convenient to the lords to acquire possession of the cultivated lands of the people, and they did a great thing—they set the people free, and ejected them from the estates. Exactly the same proposition is now before us in another form in Ireland. It is proposed to send the people away, at the expense of the public at large, because their presence troubles the lords of the land! Between the time of Henry VII. and our day, the people, defrauded of their land, in spite of starvation and death, have contrived to make England the Mother of Industry. The lords have not done it; the landlords have not done it; both have received the profit of the result. Land has been enhanced in value, rents have risen, and wages have fallen. We have the richest upper and middle class in Europe; we have the poorest, most abject, and most miserable population on the face of the earth. The real history of England has to be written yet. What history we have is only calendars of monarchies and schedules of the blunders of statesmen. When that authentic history comes to be written, it will be found that the people who made England were the undecorated and unrewarded soldiers of industry, who faced death in the mine and on the great deep, although their courage was unnoted by a world busy in decorating Marlboroughs, Wellingtons, and Wolseleys, and in granting perpetual pensions to their undistinguished posterity.—*Reynold's Newspaper.*

OUR BOOK TABLE.

SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED EDITION OF BUILDING.—Published by W. J. Comstock, 6 Astor Place, New York. Single copies 50 cents each. This edition contains a large number of lithographic plates, the reproduction of the best designs in Architecture, Furniture, Decoration and Ornament, from leading foreign publications. It is printed on excellent paper with a handsome cover to preserve its contents.

PLASTER AND PLASTERING: Mortars and Cements, how to make and how to use them—is the sign manual of a valuable work just issued by F. J. Hodgson, 294 Broadway, N. Y. It is a complete guide for the plasterer in the preparation and application of all kinds of plaster, stucco and cements, also in the chemical qualities and use of various kinds of limes and cements. A new Illustrated Catalogue of Practical and Scientific and Art Books for men in the Building trades has also been published by Mr. Hodgson.

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—San Francisco Union, No. 22, has $1,919.83 on hand.

—Patronize those who advertise in THE CARPENTER, and don't forget it.

—We have a new supply of constitutions printed in German. Send in your orders.

—Bro. Murchison, late of Victoria, B. C., and formerly of Hamilton, Canada, is now in Los Angelos, Cal.

—The new secret work and travelling signs and passwords have been passed upon by the Executive Board and will be sent to the Unions this week.

—Bro. Thos. P. Doran has returned to Chicago and is now, as of old, an active, zealous worker in the ranks of Union No. 21.

—Charters have been granted to Benecia, Cal, Union No. 53, and to Covington, Ky., Union No. 54. A list of their officers will be in our next.

—The Executive Board decides that the Ex-President of a local union must act as Preceptor, but can hold another office in the union as well.

—Bro. Casper Heep, of St. Louis, Mo., delegate to the Philadelphia Convention, is now interested in the hay and feed business.

—Financial Secretaries and officers of local unions requiring letter heads, monthly blanks, constitutions or supplies of any kind, will notify the General Secretary at once.

—Cincinnati Carpenters's Union withdrew its funds from the Western German bank of that city, because it advertised in the *Volksfreund*, a boycotted "rat" paper.

—The Washington Carpenters' Union have started a night school for the teaching of mathematics. They also propose to petition Congress for schools of the same kind for other trades.

—Bro. P. A. Brooks, of Carpenters' Union No. 43, has been elected Vice-President of the Trades Assembly, Hartford, Conn. That body is now exerting itself to move the Legislature of that State to abolish contract prison labor.

—Cincinnati Union No. 2 has decided to have open meetings hereafter. Trade is picking up with a good outlook for Spring. Some of the large firms cut their men 25 cents a day, mostly in the mills and amongst the scabs.

—Denver, Col., reports they have succeeded in organizing a Carpenters' Union, had an interesting meeting on January 20, anp elected officers. Work scarce, wages low and many men idle. Carpenters are advised to keep away from there.

—In Mexico, carpenters get from $1.75 to $2.25 per day, and this is nearly double what it was a few years ago. The increase of railroad building has increased the demand for a better class of labor and higher wages were a consequent result.

—Guelph Union No. 46 reports trade dull; all union men employed, and the new officers are: President, Thos. Simmons; Vice-Pres., P. O'Connor; Rec. Sec., Thos. Brothers; Fin. Sec., Thos. M. Hockin; Cor. Sec., David Adam; Treas., Fred. W. Darby; Conductor, Joseph Adams; Warden, John Holly.

—Trenton Union No. 31 reports trade slack; all union men at work. New officers are: President, James Lanning; Vice-Pres., (to be filled); Rec. Sec., Frank P. Moses; Fin. Sec., E. S. Hazard; Cor. Sec., Jos. H. Appleton; Treasurer, Oswald Weighert; Conductor, John Quinn; Warden, George Hufman; Trustee, John Cox.

—New officers of Morris Union No. 41 are: President, P. A. McCarthy; Vice-Pres., Jacob See; Secretary, John Limgren; Treasurer, P. A. McCarthy; Conductor, P. A. Hanson; Warden, A. T. Moe; Trustees, P. A. Hanson, 1 year; P. A. McCarthy, 2 years; John Curry, 3 years.

—Trade in Charleston, S. C., very dull; many carpenters out of work. From all indications Union No. 52 is doing well, it initiated 26 new members the past few weeks, and its Secretary writes: "I am rejoiced to say there will be a new union in Savannah, Ga., very soon; also in Columbia, S. C. We are speeding the good work all we can. We hope the day will come when there will be a carpenters' union in every city in the United States.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD.

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6th Vice President—Chas. Armstrong, Toronto, Canada.
7th Vice President—James Orrick, Philadelphia, Pa.
8th Vice President—Thos. Jones, Chicago, Ill.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members, and particularly for the benefit of our travelling brothers.)

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ALLEGHANY CITY, Pa.—Thos. Cummings, 13 Lombard St.
ALBANY, N. Y.—Wendel Hans, 216 Morton St.
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WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

IN MEMORIAM

Whereas, It has seemed good to the Ruler of the Universe to remove from among us our beloved brother and fellow-member, JOHN LENNON, therefore, in view of the loss we have sustained, and the still heavier loss occasioned to his respected relatives, be it

Resolved, That the members of this union hereby desire to express their sense of bereavement and grief at the loss of one of their most faithful members, and to record the enjoyment and profit which they have had in the genial social qualities of the deceased.

Resolved, That we sincerely sympathize with the relatives and near friends of our late beloved brother, and that we respectfully commend them for consolation to that Divine Power, which, though sometimes inscrutable in its dispensations, yet "doeth all things well," feeling sure that to them as to us there is comfort in the knowledge that the deceased was not only honorable and [illegible] in all respects, but was also a devoted and consistent Christian.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be duly engraved and sent to the relatives of our deceased brother, and that the resolutions be also sent to THE CARPENTER for publication.

(Signed,) HARRY F. SLEVINS,
B. M. WEST,
E. REDLON,
Committee.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Ritchey, Mo.

A sufficient number of members have been got here to procure a charter and constitute ourselves a union under jurisdiction of the Brotherhood. The people in this section are waking up to the labor movement and are beginning to organize labor unions. Wages for carpenters same as last report.

Chillicothe, Mo.

Cheap is the man who wins here, whether he knows anything or not. We have one or two new contractors who have taken jobs to make about two dollars a day and sometimes less. They get saw and hatchet hands at $1.25 to $1.50. There has been considerable building done this season, but not as much as in other towns of the same size. Have had fine weather for building this fall.

Victoria, British Columbia.

We held a very interesting meeting on Jan. 7, and installed our officers for the coming term. President, A. Noble; Vice-Pres., G. Bishop; Rec. Secretary, C. M. Smith; Fin. Sec., Wm. Scott; Cor. Sec., J. Holland (re-elected); Treasurer, S. Anderson (re-elected); Conductor, H. H. Koper; Warden, L. T. Kurzboth. Bro. W. W. Northcothe then moved a vote of thanks for the retiring officers, cordially supported by Bro. A. B. Murry. The buildings erected in this city during the year 1883 for dwelling and business purposes number 78, and the aggregate cost is fixed at $280,000. Business is very dull here at present; wages the same as at last report.

Morris, Minn.

I and all the boys are anxious to see "THE CARPENTER." I think it is the best union paper in America, and I consider our Brotherhood would not be much without it.

I am glad to notice the names of the general Officers and Corresponding Secretaries of the different unions appearing in the CARPENTER (and it should be kept up), and all unions should correspond with each other discuss matters of trade, and exchange views and opinions. It will create a more lively feeling among the unions and members. I shall be pleased to here from any member or union at any and all times, and I will endeavor to return prompt answers.

Union No. 41 has raised its dues to 50c. per month, and initiation fee to $1.50, created a sick benefit fund of $2.50 per week for first 7 weeks, and $1.50 per week for next 8 weeks.

I very much approve of the address of our G. P. and the sooner such steps be taken and put into practice the better it will be for the Brotherhood. I suggest that such actions be submitted to general vote as soon as possible.

Ole Severson, the defaulting Treasurer of our union, has been expelled from Union No. 41 for defaulting with the funds of the union and for non-payment of dues, fines and assessments.

Also Gus Bragg and W. Canfield are expelled for non-payment of dues, etc.

Cincinnati, O.

Trade dull on account of weather; fine prospects for next Spring. There is plenty of work in the market to be done. New officers: President, J. Valerius; Vice President, Chas. Landon; Rec. Secretary, C. M. Smith; Fin. Sec., Wm. Scott; Cor. Sec., J. Holland (re-elected); Treasurer, S. Anderson (re-elected); Conductor, H. H. Koper; Warden, L. T. Kurzboth. Bro. W. W. Northcothe then moved a vote of thanks for the retiring officers, cordially supported by Bro. A. B. Murry. The buildings erected in this city during the year 1883 for dwelling and business purposes number 78, and the aggregate cost is fixed at $280,000. Business is very dull here at present; wages the same as at last report.

Rushville, Ind.

Work is dead; nothing doing at all; nothing for carpenters to do but catch rabbits or starve; everything wound up at once; the outlook at present anything but encouraging. Work is dead here now; there is a good prospect for work next Spring. We have more work promised for next year than the outside bosses, and I promise you now that we will prove ourselves a "power" this coming year. We have had three weeks of severe Winter, and work has laid idle, but every day we gather at Bro. Thompson's shop, better known as "the consolidated," and are ready for anything that turns up, from grinding an ax to building a house, from making a barrel to putting up a gun. For the present most of us can work at more trades than one, probably from necessity, at it is always the case when work is dull through Winter.

Some of our black sheep together with several non-union men, who have received many invitations to join us, have found our place of business and have favored us with their presence on several occasions, but they always find us busy, and all the information they can gather up regarding our present or future prospects, they can put in their eye and not injure the sight thereof. There is but one planing mill running now, and that on very short time; the saw mills are not doing much, and things are beginning to look blue to some. Our union is in very good shape, the luke-warm are beginning to warm up. We have a cozy room to meet in; our rent is paid until the first of April next. We have some money on hand and lots of faith in our ultimate success in convincing the chips of this and the surrounding country that it is for their benefit that we are organized.

I will give you a sample of how things are managed here. Bro. Stiffler was bidding on a job against Aultman Bros., and his bid was $150 less than that of A. Bros., yet they were awarded the contract; they are non-union men and now they set the price of labor at 15 cents per hour, and Bro. S. would have paid $2 per day, regardless of hours.

New officers: J. M. Steward, President; N. Horr, Vice President; C. W. Gregg, Rec. Secretary; M. Plessinger, Fin. Secretary; J. C. Gregg, Cor. Secretary; I. M. Thompson, Treasurer; C. McCarthy, Conductor; J. D. Wilson, Warden; T. Worth, Trustee.

A New Union in Benecia, Cal.

I am glad to inform you that I organized a union of our Brotherhood at Benecia, Cal., on Dec. 5th. Benecia is about 30 miles from Oakland, and promises fair to be quite a city in the near future, and through correspondence Bro. Owens and myself made an appointment to be on hand. We were there at the appointed time and received a hearty reception from the carpenters of Benecia. We were then escorted to Wyman's Hall, where the chairman called the meeting to order, after which Bro. Ed. Owens, of San Francisco Union, was introduced, who delivered a very appropriate address, describing the benefits of organization. The speaker then introduced me as his successor to the position of organizer. I then stated the objects of our Brotherhood and urged the necessity of forming a union, and the result was that 19 good and true men stepped forward and paid their initiation fee, and resolved to form a union.

R. STEPHENS.

Milwaukee, Wis.

Union No. 30 is endeavoring to organize a German branch on the West side. Trade is somewhat dull. Most of our members are employed at $2.50 per day. In our last meeting complaints were made by Bro. Kuhnert & Son, members in good standing in our union, that a certain Wm. Leipold, residing No. 208 Vliet street, hired carpenters at an agreed price per day, and as long he employed them he would pay on account, and when paying them he would deduct some of their pay in amounts that did not pay to go to law about; complainants lost—the father $2.00, the son $7.00. We resolved to publish this bum boss in THE CARPENTER.

Oakland, Cal.

The various carpenters' unions on this coast deemed it necessary to adopt means whereby they can work more harmoniously together, so that the by-laws of one should not conflict with the other, also to arrange one general system of operations. For this purpose each union appointed delegates who met together at a stated time and place, and attended to all these matters. Bro. R. Stephens of this city was elected President of that body. On Jan. 7, new officers were elected by Union No. 36: President, H. A. Thompson; Vice-President, C. Roesch; Rec. Sec'y, P. Maloney; Cor. Sec'y, C. E. Nichols, Fin. Sec'y, A. A. Wells; Treasurer, W. Finney; Conductor, H. W. Smith; Warden, R. Scott. The severity of the season has stopped a good deal of the work, but the chances for a busy spring are good.

I send you the papers relating to the death and burial of Bro. Alonzo A. Smith of this union. Bro. Smith was taken down with the typhoid fever, about the middle of November, worked up to Saturday night, drew his pay, went home complaining and was reported to the union on Monday evening. On Thursday a nurse was procured to relieve his over taxed wife who had become exhausted from watching and nursing, and had in the mean time taken a cold, and inflamation of the bowels was the result, ending in her death on the Sunday morning following at 8 o'clock, leaving three small children, the youngest about three months old. Bro. Smith was immediately moved to the "Homeopathic Hospital," where he received every attention, that it was possible to render him, but died on Dec. 5th. His wife's uncle had been telegraphed for at some place in Humboldt county, who with his wife arrived several days before his death and was able to see that he received the best of care. The union has borne some of the expenses. Smith was not destitute, as he had managed to save up something like four hundred dollars, but I am informed that there was none of it left after all the necessary expenses were paid. The children will be entitled to the endowment.

Trade is rather quiet just now, but still, would be considered good for this time of the year.

Chicago, Ill.

Branches 1 and 11 had a fine ball on the 8th inst., at Brand's Hall; the hall was crowded and the whole affair reflect great credit on the arrangement committee.

The Executive Council at the last meeting elected the following officers: President, T. B. Blair; Vice-President, Chas. Enke; Recording Secretary, C. McRae; Financial Sec'y, B. F. Newhouse; Corresponding Secretary, L. E. Pake; Treasurer, W. T. Henderson; Conductor, Jasper Zwerline; Warden, T. Carroll; Trustees, J. P. McGinley, W. S. Weeks and L. J. Boyer.

Branch 4 have elected the following officers: President, L. E. Pake; Vice-President, E. Bates; Recording Secretary, C. McRae; Financial Secretary, L. J. Boyer; Treasurer, W. T. Henderson; Conductor, John Watterman; Warden, Amos. H. Gardner.

A general meeting of all the branches of Union No. 21, in conjunction with the Amalgamated Carpenters, was held in Seamen's Hall, 99 W. Randolph St., on January 19, 1884. Each absentee was punished by a fine. The object of the meeting was to discuss a few questions of vital interest to every carpenter in Chicago. The spacious hall was crowded to its fullest capacity.

AUGUST MOE, 41 Cornell St., Chicago, was expelled from Branch 8, after a fair trial for the following violations of our laws: 1) Persuading members to leave the union. 2) Defrauding the union. 3) Violating the principles of the Brotherhood. 4) Exposing the private business of the union. This fellow Moe does a little one-horse business on the North West side and we warn all decent people to keep clear of him.

Trade at present is very dull owing to bad weather and severe frost. This is a poor place for a travelling "chip" to strike unless he is a union man; then his chances are bettered a hundred fold. But as it is we would advise no one to come here, as work is not of any account just now. New members are flowing into all the branches in a steady stream. Many of our members have strolled away down South. We have a few on the sick list, but on the whole we are doing very well and our treasury is increasing. A political labor club has been started in the city, which will give trades unionists a chance to dip into politics, if so [illegible] united, without interfering with the principles of the union, and unions, which are non-political in most

Cleveland, O.

Trade very dull at present, and will be so all Winter. There are more men out of employment in this city than has been the case for several years. New officers: President, J. C. Larwill; Rec. Secretary, H. N. Fisher; Fin. Secretary, D. Freeman; Cor. Secretary, D. F. Sleeper; Treas., D. McIntosh; Trustees, Sleeper, Johnson, McFarlane, Bordenheim, and Boyd. Bros. H. Tenhagen and Montgomery were elected Vice President and Warden. We think THE CARPENTER is improving every month. Times are very dull, although a good portion of our men are at work. In regard to wages they range from $1.50 to $2.50. I believe none of our men are getting less than $2.25 and the most of them $2.50. Cleveland is a good place to stay away from. Of course, the bosses reduced the time when the days began to be short, and we are trying to contrive some means to keep it up so far the coming season.

Toledo, Ohio.

Union No. 25 is going right along; we get from one to four new members every meeting. On Dec. 29, we organized Branch 1, on the East side, and a night was set for election of permanent officers, but as the weather was extremely cold on that night, only a few turned out, so the election was postponed. The extreme cold weather has stopped all outside work, and there is very little inside. The bids on the State Insane Asylum, which is to be built here, were opened to-day at Columbus. The lowest bid was by Miles, Cramer & Hone, of Toledo. Their bid is $460,000.

Our new officers are: President, W. A. Page; Vice President, J. B. O'Neal; Rec. Secretary, C. Murphy; Fin. Secretary, John Klueter; Treasurer, S. Zixle; Conductor, M. F. Kise; Warden, Joseph Adams.

Washington, D. C.

Trade dull; whatever work is done, is done on the nine-hour plan. The most of our members are out of work, and the weather has been so bad that it has stopped all outside work. The bosses are taking advantage of this and are putting the men on short time. We will try and make an attempt to get the hours reduced next Spring. The talk is very strong in favor of that plan. New officers: President, G. Edmonston; Vice President, Daniel Donaldson; Rec. Secretary, Wm. A. Ward; Fin. Secretary, P. L. O'Brien; Cor. Secretary, G. W. Heisley; Treasurer, John F. Suter; Conductor, R. C. Head; Warden, J. W. Howard; Trustee, Jacob Lashorn; Delegates to Federation of Labor, G. Edmonston, David Gregg, J.G. Roose, C. Blade, G. W. Barkman; for Alternates, Rabbitt, Folsom and Head.

San Francisco, Cal.

Business holds middling fair for the season of the year. But there are a great many carpenters idle, caused principally by the influx of carpenters from the country and the cities along the coast, who as a general rule will work for less wages at this season of the year, than those who reside here all the year round. Our union has given such roamers considerable trouble lately as it is rather difficult to find a job, where union men are not employed. Some of the bosses have taken advantage of this surplus supply by reducing the wages, but it is not general; carpenters are still making application into our union, who do not come supplied with a travelling card from other cities, and if they do have a card, they do not have the proper pass. Travellers had better attend to this.

Union No. 22 has raised the initiation fee to $5.00, beginning 1st of January, 1884. I will send you a few items taken from my report for the half year ending Dec. 15, 1883. RECEIPTS: Initiation fee for 6 months, $535.00; Monthly Dues, $921.00; Proceeds of Picnic, $352.00; the interest on bank account and sale of constitutions made the total receipts $1846.78. Total expenses for the 6 months, $892.10. We paid $190.00 accident benefits, and donated $50.00 to sick members. Cash on hand Dec. 15th, $1867.88. We initiated 214 and admitted by card 4, making in all 218 new members for the year.

A spirited contest took place for officers, which resulted in drawing out the largest meeting we ever held. The new officers elect: President, T. C. Rowe; Vice-Pres., W. H. Preble; Rec. Sec'y, M. J. Gorman; Fin. Sec'y, A. T. Penebsky; Cor. Sec'y, J. D. Campbell; Treasurer, G. J. Borle; Conductor, G. I. Gunn; Warden, Thos. O'Reilley; Trustees, N. L. Wandell, R. Uglow, C. T. Martin, H. Foote, J. J. Walsh. Before retiring from the chair, Ex-Pres. Saunders was presented with a magnificent silver tea set, suitably engraved; the gift of his many friends in Union No. 22.

Building Enterprise in Irvington, N.Y.

Irvington-on-the-Hudson, N. Y., which is preeminently the most beautiful suburb of New York City, has had some new life blood instilled into its veins, which is destined to be of great benefit to every one in that locality. And this new life is that possessed by those whose natural genius has won for them renown throughout the whole civilized world, and none other than Messrs. Palliser, Palliser & Co., Architects and Publishers of Bridgeport, Conn., and 9 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York. This firm recently purchased the Harriman estate of 150 acres, which is laid out as a Park and beautifully located with views from every point of the Hudson river, Palisades and West shore. And on this ground the Messrs. Palliser will commence the erection of 50 to 60 picturesque stone mansions suitable for New York merchants, bankers, brokers, etc., and will make it the most healthful spot on earth—a perfect Paradise. Though only acquired by the Messrs. Palliser a few weeks ago improvements are going forward; the first being the conversion of the high lake ¼ of an acre and situated at the highest point in the Park, 450 feet above the river, into a storage Reservoir capable of holding 4 to 5 million gallons of water, thus securing to the property a permanent supply of water. An artesian well, 500 feet deep, is being sunk in a never failing brook of the purest water to keep up the supply. To carry out the water [illegible] will be expended, and a system of [illegible] follow and nothing will be left undone [illegible] place a lovely spot in every respect. [illegible] that if energy and ability will accomplish [illegible] that is desirable it will be done, as these [illegible] are certainly possessed by the Messrs.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

HOW SOCIETY IS CONSTITUTED.

LECTURE XII.

(*Continued.*)

Up to the present time the questions which relate to society and to economics, have been studied but very imperfectly, and the result of those studies very little promulgated.

It is necessary that the people should understand by seeing in practice, and should be convinced by experience, that what they have to undertake for their material and moral emancipation, is simple and just, useful and easy, from the very reason that we have not only to destroy the old and vermiculated forms of society, or the old shanty, of which we made mention in a former lecture; for, if through prejudice or feebleness of conviction, we leave any of the present commercial methods standing and in operation to-day, in order to make our ideas acceptable to the world at large; if we act from a matter of mere policy, or from mere pusillanimity in the interest of those outside of our ranks, or the commercial world who have defrauded us; or those within our ranks who, having promised to be faithful to us, have defrauded, deceived and cheated us to-day, and if to-morrow we act in the interests opposed to them, let us fear, lest we should find our momentary environment stronger than ourselves, that the current of events will carry us away and render us powerless to perform anything which would be of utility to the masses.

We have seen, in our former lectures, that each of the elements which contribute to the formation of wealth, either directly or indirectly, should have a just and equitable portion in the distribution. Of the justice of this there can be no doubt. But what should be that portion? Who or what shall determine it?

Shall it be determined by an economic law, or shall it be determined by the conscience and the power of the indivldual interested, as it is to-day?

If it is the conscience of the individual, it will ever remain as it to-day is; if, on the contrary, it is an economic law which shall determine, there will be a greater approach to justice. But, in order to secure justice, production must be organized upon a different basis, for so long as the present existing state of things is not modified, the slightest relief to the suffering and misery of the poor can be but a delusion.

It may be asked, if it is possible to organize industry upon a different basis? We reply, unhesitatingly, yes! Then by what means?

By encouraging, through the establishment of a social capital, industrial centres of production, exchange and distribution, which shall be mutually linked together in solidarity, where all men can find employment and freely classify themselves in the particular kind of labor and industrial functions for which they have the greatest attraction, where they can all render mutual service, and where, when the moment of distribution arrives, they will be recompensed according to a mathematically determined rate for their products or for the services which they have rendered.

If men were surrounded by these new conditions, what would be the part offered to each of these five elements of productions—Land, Labor, Capital, Exchange and Insurance?

Society—or, if you prefer the word, government—would have to be paid for the land, under the title of an instrument of labor, the first equivalent for the productive and inexhaustible qualities, forces and faculties of the planet, which are at present monopolized by the privileged few—the landlords—this sum or part would not only secure the maintenance of the productive fertility of the soil and the replacing of that which was exhausted in the process of cultivation—of which we will speak more fully when we come to Forestry—but, also, the augmentation of the capital of society and would replace taxes.

To capital would go such a part as would be sufficient to continually keep it in repair and replace it when worn out; which will be a very insignificant sum when compared with that which the capitalist at present extorts.

Commerce being reduced to a simple act of exchange, and there being no necessity to make profits upon the objects of consumption, but only to secure a sufficient sum to give the necessary reward to those who undertake the function of exc[illegible] for the services rendered by those wh[illegible] charged to transport, take charge of [illegible] range and deliver them to th[illegible] custom[illegible] in return for their equivalent[illegible] signs

exchange or money, it would cost nearly nothing, more especially when the facilities offered by the organization of the post-office shall be extended to common carrying.

A very small sum set aside from the total proceeds of production would suffice to provide against accidents of all kinds, and to guarantee the aged, the injured and the helpless young against want and poverty; this small sum would also come from the proceeds of the inexhaustible productive facilities of the land.

As there would be little or nearly nothing to give as taxes to a government which such an organisation of industry would transform into a simple function of superintendence of general interests, and whose expenses would be covered by the revenues obtained from the essentially productive faculties of the globe, there would be hardly anything to pay.

Therefore there would remain as the part due to the efforts of the laborers, at least three-fourths of the total production of the wealth, which is far from being the case at present.

Having shown this truth, that all which contributes to produce wealth should have its equitable share in the distribution, and having, in some degree, determined the part which should go to each of these elements, we have now to examine if the solution of the labor and industrial problem does not depend upon the manner in which these industrial centres of production, exchange and consumption, should be organized.

OPINIONS OF A CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.

There are carpenters in Chicago now working for their board and upwards. I had the offer of a job (being out of work) for 15 cents per hour on Allen's tobacco warehouse, and only work 8 hours per day. If our trade is coming to this it is time Union 21 should wake up and stir the dead bones of our brothers. We are going wrong if we cannot stop this. I think if the various unions in the country will take action in the matter, not one town or city need be bad. My idea is, we want to appoint a suitable man at Castle Garden, who can read and talk most languages, to inform the emigrants what wages to work for. Union carpenters should have bills printed in most languages, and given to all men coming in through Castle Garden, and also have a large number placed in the various lodging houses around Castle Garden, with all the information of the carpenter trade in the United States, also what the wages of each large city is, also what hours we work, so that the emigrants will not be as ignorant as they are. In Chicago it is a hard struggle to compete with them. I can point to shops working on piece work and day work. I have seen work made and finished and the men only made an average of 50 cents per day, and I know their day men are only getting from $1.75 to $2.25, ten hours per day. I can point to several firms if required. Something must be done. One thing would be good. Establish a correspondence between our brotherhood and all European unions, such as France, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Italy, Belgium, stating our hours for work, and wages we have also. It would give them a chance to go to our union headquarters, where they could stay. In England it could be published in all trade journals. Now, some brothers will want to know about expenses and where they come from. In the first place I propose to levy 5 cents per month on each member in every union of America, to pay expenses, as we all would get ten times that amount in our pockets, and we could understand each other better. Union 21 also wants two canvassers to canvass Chicago, one English speaking and one German, and both devote one day each, every two weeks or month. Then we should know more, and do a great deal better. Then of course we must pay them their day's pay, but they must give a report of what they have done for the good of the union. Let us begin in earnest for 9 hours as a day's work, and be paid by the hour and when we are asked to quit let us have an hour's notice or money. We can get it. What we want is more money, and less hours of work. We can get them. Let us unite as brothers.

E. B.

Chicago, Ill.

Boston, Mass.

[illegible]ew officers of Union No. 33 are: President, W. [illegible] Vice-Pres., J. Keefe; Rec. Sec'y, J. J. [illegible]Sec'y, R. Cassidy; Cor. Sec'y, G. A. [illegible]N. P. Brown.

OUR BROTHERHOOD LAWS.

One of the usual duties of a labor convention is to make new Laws and repeal old ones, and this causes the membership either to grow stronger or to recede. Experience teaches that by odds the large majority of members in all societies do not study the rules and usages of their societies, so to be clearly able to comprehend and distinguish senseless laws from plain, common sense ones. Did they do so, there would be altogether a different story, and possibly better laws. Why they do not rectify evils that are claimed to exist cannot be explained, unless it is they follow the scriptural saying: "In much wisdom is much grief, and he who increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow."

What a benefit it would be if no new law could be made, or an old one repealed, unless it be by consent of the members. Is it necessary for our safety as well as for the perpetuation of good government to place the burden of making laws and changing them in the hands of a few delegates? To have the laws made by 20 or 30 delegates and crammed down the throats of eight or ten thousand men is in direct conflict with all democratic-republican principles. Make your laws in delegate conventions and pack them down the throats of members, and your laws will be ignored. Frame your laws and let the people ratify them as laws, and they will be respected; for, as Wendell Phillips says: "With us law is nothing, unless close behind it stands a warm-living public opinion. Let them die or grow indifferent, and statutes and books are waste paper, lacking all Executive force.

I admit that our laws and rules in the B. have not the warm public opinion they should have to make them self-enforcing and effective. As an organization we should have no laws that cannot be enforced. If we are unable to live up to our laws, it is far better to abolish those we do not want. Better have ten men working under proper and wholesome laws than ten thousand ignoring the laws. We should have no laws but those which every local union and every man can live up to. We should grant no special privileges to individuals or local unions; they must all conform to the same rules or step out. The sooner we reach that point, the sooner will we assume the dignity of a powerful organization.

Then let us get to work and make our laws efficient and to suit us, and my idea is that the best way and the best time to do so is this Winter and early Spring in your local unions. There are men who find fault with the rules; then there are those who support the rules and those who sit quiet and keep mum. Now the fault-finders exist in every society, and we have the supporters of the law as well. The wrangling of the two creates much strife, and as a result many good men leave the organization through these quarrels. Experience teaches that fault-finders never complain of their own work. Hence, now is the time to give them a fair chance to try their skill as law makers. If one and all combine and better our laws I am certain we will all be gratified.

So let each union take up such articles and sections of the constitution that they think ought to be amended and discuss them, and also any additional section they wish to propose. Let each union submit its work to the G. S. as early as April 1st, next, to compile and publish, and on its return let each union thoroughly consider it, part by part, and instruct their delegates accordingly to the convention in August next. By this method the power of law-making is brought into the hands of the whole membership. It only gives the convention the power of a conference committee; it imposes no laws upon the local unions until the work of the convention is ratified by a two-third vote of the Brotherhood. By this method we all will be enabled to arrive at laws, pure and simple and easy of comprehension.

One question seems to agitate the membership more than any other, and that is the Endowment Fund. Many claim it as all right, but I believe more claim it impossible to carry out. I don't claim it impossible, but I absolutely know that it is impossible for any man to get $250 by the payment of $1.20 a year, even during a whole life time. And especially so where the money deposited earns nothing. My letter this time is too long to go into the details of the Endowment Fund, but I will make it the subject of a special article next month. Now let me go on record as strongly in favor of a universal funeral benefit. I do not favor reducing the death benefit to $100 and putting the disability benefit at $250. But leave the death benefit at what it is and raise the disability to either $250 or $500. To lower the death benefit now would be to place us in a ludicrous position before the public. Suppose we repeal the system of ten cents per month from each member to be taken from the local treasuries, and insert that each and every member shall be assessed to the sum of ten cents at the death of a member. The local unions shall then at once pay into the general treasury said assessment for each and every member in good standing and charge the same to their accounts as dues. Would not that be safer and better?

The location of the B. headquarters for a term of years where the business can be transacted between the G. S. and the Trustees and Treasurer in a satisfactary manner, is an important change much needed. Let us discuss all these matters.

Fraternally, J. D. ALLEN.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 2, '84.

IT PAYS TO EMPLOY HIGH-PRICED WORKMEN.

The *California Architect* expresses the very soundest sentiments when it says:

It may seem an anomaly but it is a fact that during the reign of high prices of material the contractor invariably seeks the high priced mechanic, and his reason for so doing is found in the fact that first-class mechanics are less apt to make mistakes, and thus the waste of material, so common amongst inexperienced workmen, is greatly lessened if not wholly overcome.

When lumber, for instance, is cheap, or even when it is at a moderately fair rate, the contractor seeks to get the most work done at the least expense. On large jobs, even laborers are substituted in passing lumber to and fro. Apprentices are set at work doing that which should belong to the experienced mechanic. A few feet of lumber don't amount to much, and so but little attention is paid to the blunders made.

When, however, lumber is four and one-half cents a foot for surface and the finer grades, it becomes necessary for the principal to look after his employes, as it does not take the cost of but a few boards spoiled in cutting to more than offset the difference in wages.

High prices of material are a death blow to *piece-workers*. It is a notorious fact that these have-to-be-endured men are without consciences in their waste of material. If a floor is to be laid, their motto is simply any way to get it laid.

* * * * * *

First-class workmen always have been and always will be the cheapest in the end. In order to obtain their proficiency they must study, and therein lies the fault of the cheaper men, they have no time to study. (Nor do they care to ask higher wages to give them the means.—EDITOR.) A journal devoted to their interests never receives their subscription, as they can never find anything in it excepting what they already know. To all such we would say, if such be the fact, suppose you try a change. Your old way evidently has been a failure, or else you would be receiving better wages.—(And to this the editor of THE CARPENTER would add: Join a Carpenters Union, and unite with your fellow craftsmen, that by collective measures you may be able to advance the standard of skill in the trade.)

Baltimore, Md.

Our union is progressing nicely, we made a clean sweep of all the drones, who proved to be of no use to us: that is we excluded the following at our meeting, Dec. 24, 1883: John Staub, Alonzo Squires, Jas. Gore, David Hedwell, C. R. Starker, A. M. Day, W. H. Wells, George McCubbin, Jos. Lamb, Chas. Scheirmeyer, Fred. Becker, J. B. Hale. These members were one year and over in arrears, and said that they never would square up.

We also suspended the following for being over three months in arrears: John J. McCartney, Jos. Reilley, J. Jessop, W. H. Killen, J. K. Smith, Ed. Johannas, C. A. Spicknall, J. H. D. Unger, Robert Hill, I. G. Cooper.

Bro. Ed. J. Whiting received his withdrawal card in September on account of leaving the city to go to Centerville, Md., where there was no union; he says there is a good opening for a union there, if some one would only push it.

Bro. J. H. Grier received his withdrawal card in November, which he was to deposit in Union No. 1, Washington.

Bro. James Wall was transferred to San Francisco Union.

Bro. Robert McKinley has travelling card and is now in New Orleans. He is a good society man and we would like the boys to look out for him.

On January 8, 1884, we excluded from our union for non-payment of dues, etc., W. H. Taylor, Hugh Quinn, and G. M. W. Hunter.

I was discharged this morning from my work on account of compelling men working there to get their union cards, but I completed my work before I was discharged—every man has his card.

Der Carpenter.

New York, Februar 1884.

n alter Bauschreiner-Verein.

Der nachstehende Bericht über den Gewerkschaftsverband der „Amalgamated Carpenters d Joiners“ ist einem von Hrn. Rathnell in Bostoner „Central Trades and Labor nion“ gehaltenen Vortrag entnommen. Derbe lautet:

„Unser Gewerksverein wurde 1860 in London egründet, in Folge vorhergegangenen Strikes m Bausache. Der Zweck war, die schwachen okal-Vereine durch eine mächtige Brüderhaft zu ersetzen — in der alten sowohl als in r neuen Welt. — und möglichst das ganze auhandwerk zu vereinigen Wie weit wir folg hatten, mögen Andere beurtheilen.

Wir unterstützen und beschützen unsere Mitlieder im Gewerke und sind zugleich bis zu ner bedeutenden Ausdehnung Versicherungsesellschaft Wir bezahlen für Arbeitslose 3.50, in Kranheitsfällen $4.25 wöchentlich, Begräbnißkosten $85 und in Unglücksfällen 700; wir helfen unseren Alterschwachen und rsetzen den Verlust von Handwerkszeug, einerlei b es durch Unfall oder Diebstahl verlor n ging, bis zu irgend einem Betrage, und so beschützen wir unsere Mitglieder vor dem Elende der Verarmung.

Auch sind wir auf demokratische Weise eingerichtet. Wir haben keine allgemeine Kasse für die ganze Gesellschaft, welche die Exekutiv-Beamten des General-Vereins etwa verwalten, sondern jede Unterabtheilung sorgt für ihre eigenen Gelder und darin liegt ein großer Schutz; wenn es jedoch die Umstände erfordern, so hilft eine Abtheilung der andern aus. — Unsere Kassen werden jährlich ausgeglichen nach der Kopfzahl der Vereine, wodurch es sehr erleichtert wird, ein Mitglied von einem Ort zum andern zu versetzen, ohne ihm Unrecht zu thun durch Verlust seines Antheils an der Kasse.

Der Fortschritt und die Thätigkeit des Vereins kann kurz dargestellt werden durch wenige Zahlen. Mit wenigen Mitgliedern fingen wir im Juni 1860 an und hatten am Ende des Jahres 678 Mitglieder und $2247 in Casse. Ende 1870 zählte unsere Gesellschaft 236 Unterabtheilungen mit 10,178 Mitgliedern und $122,983 Vermögen. Seit der Zeit haben wir unsere eigene General-Office gebaut, haben 337 Unterabtheilungen mit 16,662 Mitgliedern und haben nahezu $500,000 in Casse.

Von der Gründung des Vereins bis zum Ende des Jahres 1877 haben wir folgende Summen bezahlt:

An Unbeschäftigte	$292,500
Für verlorenes Handwerkszeug	39,250
An Kranke	356,000
Für Begräbnißkosten	69,000
In Unglücksfällen	42,400
Geschäftsunkosten und Strikes	145,000
Schenkungen	37,000

Alles dieses mit verschiedenen Nebenausgaben macht in dem Zeitraum von 17¼ Jahren die runde Summe von $1,027,525, macht für jedes Mitglied Unkosten in demselben Zeitraume von $121.25, oder per Jahr $6.73.

Seit dem Bestehen der Gewerkschaft hat sich derselbe über Großbritannien, Irland, die Ver. Staaten, Canada, Australien und Neu-Seeland ausgebreitet. Auf diese Weise kommt es, daß die Mitglieder alle Monate das Neueste aus dem Gewerke von allen Theilen der Welt erfahren.

Die Leute mögen vielleicht sagen: das ist Alles recht schön, so weit als es geht; — allein habt ihr für euere Mitglieder, außer den genannten Unterstützungen auch bleibende Vortheile aufzuweisen? Wir antworten ja! — Wir können hervorheben: Die höheren Löhne und kürzeren Arbeitsstunden in allen solchen Plätzen, wo unser Verein Verbindungen hat, während an anderen Plätzen, wo der Verein nicht ist, die Löhne bei langer Arbeitszeit langsam aber sicher fortwährend herunterkommen.

Durch die Abkürzung der Arbeitszeit entsteht ein solcher Unterschied, daß durch unsere Mitglieder allein an den Plätzen, wo die Arbeitszeit reducirt ist, 107,373 Arbeitsstunden per Woche gewonnen werden, wodurch es ermöglicht wird, 1,992 Personen zu 9 Stunden den Tag Arbeit zu geben, welche sonst müßig gehen würden. Angenommen nun, unsere Gewerkschaft repräsentirte im Durchschnitt 5 Prozent des ganzen Baugeschäfts und alle anderen würden dem von uns gegebenen Beispiel folgen, so würde dadurch für 39,840 Mann Arbeit geschaffen.

Daß glauben wir einen beständigen Erfolg nennen zu können in diesen Tagen des Fortschritts und der Erfindungen, wo die Welt mehr producirt, als sie kaufen kann.

Die Leute sagen weiter, das Geld, was in den verschiedenen Strikes ausgegeben wird, ist weggeworfen, oder hätte wenigstens besser angelegt werden können. — Wir wollen dies einmal näher betrachten! — In den 5 Jahren 1873—1877 incl. bezahlten wir $111,565 für Strikes und andere Unkosten, welche die Streitigkeiten im Gewerke mit sich bringen. Für diese Auslagen haben wir in 275 Abtheilungen höhere Löhne aufzeigen, welche ein Mehr von $1,275 per Woche ausmachen, oder für das Jahr $66,300. Dies gibt in derselben Periode von fünf Jahren $331,501. Das ist ein Gewinn für die Mitglieder von $219,940, ungeachtet des Gewinns Anderer. Auf diese Weise haben wir für $111,565 Auslagen $331,500 eingenommen und noch einen fortlaufenden Gewinn von $66,300 nebst einen Zeitgewinn von 5,593,796 Stunden für unsere Mitglieder; gewiß kein so schlechtes Geschäft!

Eine andere, ganz einfache Thatsache ist ein nicht zu hoch schätzender Gewinn. — Wir bezahlen Begräbnißkosten und fanden dabei aus, daß die Lebensdauer der Frauen unserer Mitglieder in den Jahren von 1860 bis 1870 im Durchschnitt 31 Jahre und 3 Monate war. Von der Zeit ab hat die durchschnittliche Lebensdauer derselben zugenommen und ist jetzt 37 Jahre. Die Thatsache beweist zum allerwenigsten, daß eine in jeder Hinsicht sorgenfreiere und bequemere Häuslichkeit bei unseren Mitgliedern eingetreten ist.

Hätten wir weiter nichts erreicht, als was oben angegeben, so dürften wir uns ganz gewiß gratuliren; wir vollbrachten ein großes Werk, für welches die Nachwelt uns danken wird.“

Chicago, Ill., 6. Jan. 1884.

Union 21, Zweig 7, wählte in ihrer letzten Versammlung folgende Beamte: Präsident: Mich. Dehen; Vice-Präsident: Henry Raab; protok. Sekretär: Chas. Steckelberg; Finanz-Sekretär: Henry Koop; Schatzmeister: J. Scherner; Führer: R. Hübel; Thürsteher: Herm. Koppe. Die öffentliche Agitations-Versammlung in diesem Monat war nur schwach besucht, wahrscheinlich wegen des miserablen Wetters. Da die angesagten Redner nicht erschienen waren, ergriff Bruder Steckelberg das Wort, unterzog die gegenwärtigen Zustände einer scharfen Kritik, und wies nach, daß nur durch eine kräftige Organisation der Arbeiter seine Lage dauernd verbessern könne. Zwei neue Mitglieder ließen sich im Laufe des Monats aufnehmen. In der letzten Versammlung am 15. Janur von Zweig 7 Union 21 wurde beschlossen, das bisherige Mitglied Joh. Schneider auszustoßen, weil er die Krankenkasse beschwindelt und betrogen hat.

— In den Bergwerks-Regionen bei Connelsville, Pa., sind Cirkulare angeschlagen, welche gegen die Einführung von Slovaken, die fälschlich als Ungarn bezeichnet werden, protestiren. Es heißt, daß sie auf einer niederen Stufe der Sittlichkeit, Intelligenz und Lebensgewohnheiten stehen.

— Der Strike der Schuhmacher in Allentown, der vor gerade 50 Wochen begann und an dem sich damals 127 Mann betheiligten, um eine Lohnerhöhnng zu erzwingen, ist jetzt endlich von den Arbeitern aufgegeben worden. 87 Mann hatten bis jetzt ausgehalten und waren während der ganzen Zeit von den Knights of Labor unterstützt worden.

— Der seit dem 13. November in New York dauernde große Strike der Carpetweber bei Higgins & Co. endete am 10. Januar damit, daß die Fabrikanten sich bereit erklärten, eine Lohnskala in Gemeinschaft mit den Arbeitern aufzustellen, deren Basis vorher von den Arbeitern acceptirt worden war. Der Strike fand in Folge einer Lohnreduktion von 10 Procent statt und es waren gegen 1000 Arbeiter und Arbeiterinnen an demselben betheiligt. Die Basis der neuen Lohnskala ist, die höheren Löhne um 3—4 Procent zu erniedrigen und die niedrigen um 6—8 Procent zu erhöhen. Die ersteren werden freilich nicht sehr erbaut sein über diesen Ausgleich; die Versammlung der Carpetweber nahm aber denselben an und die Arbeiter kehrten am 14. Januar zur Arbeit zurück.

— Von den 325 Mitgliedern des gegenwärtigen National-Abgeordnetenhauses zu Washington sind mehr als die Hälfte Neulinge in dem Berufe eines Gesetzgebers. 119 dienten im Landheere oder in der Flotte während des Rebellenkrieges, und zwar 54 auf Seiten der Rebellen. Die 54 sind sämmtlich Demokraten; von 65 Unionssoldaten waren 50 Republikaner und 15 Demokraten. Nach Berufen ordnen sich die Mitglieder in: Advokaten 122, Fabrikanten 19, Farmer 18, Zeitungsmenschen 10, Bankiers 7, Kaufleute 6, Doktoren 5, Holzhändler 2, Eisenbahn-Präsidenten 2, Eisenbahn-Operatoren 2, Geistliche 1, Apotheker 1, Zoologen 1, Hutmacher 1, Eisenbahn-Ticket-Agent 1, Küfer 1, Drucker 1, Kapitalisten 1, Politiker 1. Von 22 konnte eine Berufsangabe nicht erlangt werden; sie sind wahrscheinlich Staatsmänner von Fach. Sieben Achtel der Repräsentanten von Südstaaten sind Advokaten — und kein einziger Arbeiter.

Wie man Ueberproduction und Scabs los wird.

Eine Fabel.

Uebersetzt aus der „Toledo News“.

Es war einmal ein Eichhörnchen mit Namen Greif; dieses war sehr weise und besaß einen großen Wald. Da es aber ein gutes und wohlwollendes Eichhörnchen war, so erlaubte es vielen andern, sich seines Sonnenscheins und seiner Nüsse zu erfreuen. Nur eine Bedingung legte Greif den Eichhörnchen auf, welchen er gütigst erlaubte, in seinem Wald zu leben, nämlich die, daß sie von allen Nüssen, welche sie sammelten, ihm die Hälfte abliefern mußten. Diese nahm er in Verwahrung und gab davon an eine große Anzahl von Eichhörnchen ab, welche er ernannt hatte, um darauf zu sehen, daß sein Antheil an den gesammten Nüssen richtig abgeliefert wurde. Greif und seine Polizisten waren gar ansehnliche Eichhörnchen, sehr fett mit schönen, buschigen Schwänzen und bildeten einen lebhaften Contrast mit den Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen, deren Schwänze arg zerrissen wurden, wenn sie durch die Zweige kletterten, um Nüsse zu sammeln. Nach und nach fehlte es Greif an Raum, um seinen Ueberfluß an Nüssen zu bergen; aber die Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen, welche viel zahlreicher waren, als Greif und seine Polizei nebst der ganzen Verwandtschaft, hatten keinen Vorrath; aber dies konnte Greif nicht ändern. Er erklärte, daß eine Ueberproduktion von Nüssen oder eine Ueberproduktion an Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen vorhanden sei. Er war sich nicht ganz klar darüber, welches das Richtige sei; aber er „machte zu“ und befahl der Polizei darauf zu sehen, daß keine Nüsse mehr gesammelt würden, bis der vorhandene Ueberschuß aufgebraucht sei. Die Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen waren nun gezwungen, müßig zu gehen und zu hungern, während Greif und seine Polizei herrlich und in Freuden lebten von dem Ueberschuß an Nüssen, welche sie gesammelt hatten. Nachdem dem der Vorrath aufgebracht war, machte Greif den Wald wieder auf und forderte die hungernden Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen auf, zur Arbeit zu gehen. Aber diese weigerten sich, dies zu thun; es sei denn, er gewähre ihnen einen größeren Antheil an den gesammelten Nüssen. Sie versuchten, Greif begreiflich zu machen, daß genug Nüsse im Walde seien und wenn er ihnen einen größeren Antheil geben wolle, so würde eine Ueberproduktion nicht stattfinden. Greif begegnete diesem Argument mit Verachtung und drohte sie durch Hunger zur Unterwerfung zu zwingen. Aber seine Speicher waren leer und so mußten er und seine Polizei entweder ebenfalls hungern oder sie mußten die Nüsse selbst sammeln. Sie versuchten das Letztere, gaben es aber bald wieder auf, denn ihre eleganten, buschigen Schwänze, wodurch sie sich von den dummen Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen unterschieden, wurden dabei verdorben: außerdem waren sie so plump, fett und unbeholfen und fielen öfters zu Boden. Ihr nächster Schritt war der Versuch, Scabs durch Bestechung zu veranlassen, Nüsse für sie zu sammeln, sie konnten aber kein Eichhörnchen finden, welches gemein genug gewesen wäre, zum Scab zu werden. Greif unterwarf sich dann den Bedingungen der Arbeiter-Eichhörnchen und acceptirte ein Viertel anstatt eine Hälfte als Abgabe für das Privilegium, Nüsse in seinem (?) Walde zu sammeln. Von dieser Zeit an gab es keine Ueberproduktion mehr und alles ging vortrefflich.

Moral: — Mögen sich die Arbeiter organisiren und einen größeren Antheil an den Gütern sichern, welche sie erzeugen, und mögen sie die Erfahrung machen, daß Scabs in einem respektabeln Gemeinwesen durchaus keine Nothwendigkeit sind.

— Der Lockout der Glasbläser in Pittsburg, welcher nun schon fünf Monate währt, ist noch immer nicht beendet. Wie verlautet, hat man von hier aus eine Organisation der Glasbläser in Europa bewerkstelligt und wurde eine internationale Glasbläser-Union gebildet, welche 75,000 Mitglieder aus allen Theilen des Geschäfts enthält und den Knights of Labor unter dem Namen Assembly 300 einverleibt wurde. Die Absicht derselben, Cosporations-Geschäfte zu gründen, rückt der Verwirklichung näher. Es heißt, daß die Glasbläser bis Februar sechs Cooperativ-Fabriken in Betrieb setzen werden.

Von der englischen Lohnbewegung. Die Zahl der strikenden Weber im östlichen Lancashire belief sich Mitte December auf 16,000, wovon 12,000 auf Blackborn und 4000 auf Darwen und Pardiham entfallen. Ein kleiner Strike ist auch Barnsbridge unweit Preston eingetreten. Dagegen ließen sich die Weber an 18,800 Webestühle die Lohnherabsetzung gefallen und arbeiten vier Tage in der Woche. Die Weber an 50,800 Webestühlen arbeiten volle Zeit zu einer Lohnherabsetzung von 5 pCt. und diejenigen an 34,200 Webestühlen arbeiten volle Zeit zu den alten Lohnsätzen. — Die Arbeiter in den Kohlenwerken von Nord Wales haben ihre Forderung um eine Lohnerhöhung von 15 pCt. zurückgezogen

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will

Gewerk-Vereine.

George Howell publicirt in der Zeitschrift „Das Neunzehnte Jahrhundert“ einen Bericht über die Gewerkvereine in England, in welchem angegeben wird, daß ihre Lage im Allgemeinen besser ist, als angenommen wird. Die Mitgliederzahl aller Vereine soll über eine Million und hundert Tausend betragen. Es wird allgemein vorausgesetzt, daß diese Vereine keinen anderen Zweck haben, als Strikes zu unterstützen. Obzwar es wahr ist, daß der Schutz der Mitglieder in der Lohnfrage die eigentliche Ursache der Bildung der Union ist, ist es wichtig zu betonen, daß nur ein kleiner Theil der Beiträge verbraucht wird, um Kämpfe zwischen Kapital und Arbeit zu führen. So kann aus den Berichten vieler großen Vereine ersehen werden, daß, während fünfzig Procent der Ausgaben für arbeitslose Mitglieder, fünfundzwanzig Procent für die Kranken, und acht Procent für Sterbefälle und Unterstützung der Invaliden verbraucht wurden, die Ausgaben für Strikes nur sechs Procent betrugen. George Howell behauptet, daß die Kritik welche gegen die Gewerk-Vereine geführt wird, weil sie auf einer gleichförmigen Lohnrate bestehen, viel von ihrer Bedeutung verliert, wenn man in Betracht zieht, daß nur gute Arbeiter Mitglieder werden können.

Feinde der Trades Unions.

Von Seiten der Kapitalisten und Fabrikanten werden ernstliche Anstrengungen gemacht, die Macht der Trades Unions zu lähmen. Ehe Jay Gould sich herbeiließ, die ausstehenden Telegraphisten 'n Gnaden wieder aufzunehmen, stellte er an sie das Ansinnen, sich von der Brüderschaft der Telegraphisten, der K. of L. und allen sonstigen Arbeiter-Organisationen durch einen Eid loszusagen. Die Cigarren-Fabrikanten in verschiedenen Theilen des Landes waren beflissen, die Cigarrenarbeiter-Vereine zu vernichten; die Minenbesitzer in Pennsylvanien führen einen Kampf bis auf's Messer mit den Kohlengräbern, und die Hauptkerle in den Eisenregionen liegen sich von Zeit zu Zeit in den Haaren mit den Bergwerksarbeiter-Unionen. Die Herausgeber zweier englischer Zeitungen in San Francisco, einer englischen Zeitung in Washington und mehrerer anderer im Lande, sowie der „Volksfreund“ dahier möchten vorzüglich den Schriftsetzer-Unionen den Garaus machen. In Fall River und Worcester haben die Eisenarbeiter einen nicht endenwollenden Kampf gegen ihre Arbeitgeber zu bestehen, um ihre nackte Existenz zu sichern. In New Orleans hat die Union der Schaffner eine schwere Probe zu bestehen gehabt. In New York haben die Baugewerks-Vereine die Herren Contraktoren durch Strike und Conkurrenz zur Raison bringen müssen. Die Mitglieder der Typographical Union No. 6 in New York haben ihre Plätze einer Heerde „Scabs“ einräumen müssen und die Eigenthümer der New Yorker „Evening Post“ und „Tribune“ haben sich verschworen, besagte Schriftsetzer-Union bis in alle Ewigkeit zu bekämpfen. Je nothwendiger die Arbeiterorganisationen sind, desto mehr werden sie von ihren Feinden, den Kapitalisten, bekämpft und durch niedrige Ränke und gemeine Handlungen wird denselben ihr Zweck und Ziel, — die Gewinnung eines menschenwürdigen Daseins für die Arbeiter, — soviel wie nur möglich vereitelt und in die Ferne gerückt. Gedankenlose und egoistische Arbeiter selbst reichen ihnen die Hand zum Bunde und drehen dadurch selbst den Strick, der ihnen dereinst um ihren „edlen“ Hals gelegt wird. Thatkräftiges Handeln seitens der überzeugungstreuen Trades-Unionisten ist jetzt mehr wie je geboten, und darum, „Arbeiter in allen Branchen, vereinigt Euch!“

(Cincinnati Unionist

— Die Carpenter haben bisher ziemlich Beschäftigung gehabt; jedoch hat durch das plötzlich eintretende kalte Wetter die äußere Bauthätigkeit eingestellt werden müssen.

Abonnements-Einladung

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Die Expedition.

DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

ALONZO A. SMITH, Oakland, Cal., Union No. 36, aged 37, died of typhoid fever, Dec. 5, 1883. Particulars under head of Oakland correspondence. Assessment No. 12.

GEO. M. D. HEDRICK, Washington, D. C., Union No. 1, died of consumption, Dec. 20, 1883. Assessment No. 13.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The new officers of Union No. 8 elected for the ensuing term are: President, Jno. J. Maguire; Vice-President, Alonzo Vankirk; Rec. Secretary, Wm. J. Stanton; Cor. Sec'y, James McKimm; Fin. Secretary, Constantine Thorn; Treasurer, Richard J. Ross; Trustee, Geo. Wolfe; Conductor, Wm. Lawrence; Warden, C. H. Tweedy.

Nashville, Tenn.

Our union is increasing very safely, and our membership is composed of good, active men. No doubt by Spring we will have a strong union, and on January 1, we will institute a sick benefit. Work is very good for this time of year, very few out of employment.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52 is progressing very nicely; the movement is becoming very interesting generally. We have initiated over 20 new members the past few weeks, yet there are many more to come. Relative to the working of our union, though wages are low and work scarce, our members have strong zeal for our future welfare. Prospects good for Spring.

Indianapolis, Ind.

I trust the carpenters all over the country will soon awaken to their situation and then act for the general good. Trade is quite slack; wages also. We have had considerable snow in three weeks past. I notice an improvement in THE CARPENTER last month; that list of Corresponding Secretaries should be a standing article in the paper, it will be of great help not only to travelling members, but also to those who remain at home. I am pleased to hear of a spirit abroad to visit other local unions in the neighborhood, thereby encouraging each and all.

Seattle, Washington Territory

Our union is still increasing; trade quiet, but all union men are working. Wages from $3 to $3.75 for ten hours work, but we can only work about eight and a-half hours at present. There is a great number of men of all classes out of employment here at present, among them a good many carpenters who have been working on the railroads during the Summer and are discharged when Winter sets in. Cost of living is very high here on account of having to import a great deal.

St. Catherines, Canada

At least one-half the trade employed; state of trade dull. A few men on old jobs on short time, from 8 to 9 hours per day. Wages the same as last report. New officers: James Carty, President; W. McIntosh, Vice-Pres.; H. Bald, Rec. Secretary; Ed. Nicholson, Fin. Secretary; W. Nicholson, Cor. Secretary; G. Nicholson, Treasurer; H. White, Conductor; John Clifford, Warden; Trustee, Ed. Stapleford.

Toronto, Canada.

The plasterers are still on strike. The injunction case against them, which was brought into court by the bosses, has been decided in favor of the journeymen, but singular to say, each has to bear its share of the expenses of the trial.

The Trades Congress held here December 26-28, was a success and almost a unit on all questions directly affecting trades unions and legislative matters affecting workingmen. Very few workingmen attended from the country places, but from over hundred places we had their sympathy and support, but financial matters prevented attendance. Adjourned *sine die*, with Executive to call a Congress in six or eighteen months, as may be deemed best.

Hartford, Conn.

Trade is the same as reported last month. All union men employed. We had quite a large meeting on January 3, and elected the following new officers: President, P. A. Brooks; Vice-President, Anthony Donovan; Rec. Secretary, James A. Robertson; Fin. Secretary, James F. Egan; Cor. Secretary, David Giddie; Treas., John Cosgrove; Conductor, Geo. Kinghorn; Warden, James Howden. Our annual ball took place in Allyn Hall, on Jan'y 15, and was attended by a very fine assemblage of people.

New Orleans, La.

A League of the Building Trades is now under way in this city, and a meeting has been held for that purpose. Delegates from the Carpenters, Painters, Bricklayers and Plasterers were in session. The Gas-Fitters and Plumbers will also join us. The best of feeling prevails among the delegates. Union No. 16 is getting along good; every member at work; plenty of work done for January. I don't think there will be men enough to do the work that is in the hands of builders already. Wages low on account of so many strangers. Rent high, provisions high, wages average $2 per day, some few hands $2.50. Trade dull; work in market delayed by holidays.

Covington, Ky.

A delegation from Cincinnati, Union No. 2, visited this city on Dec. 16, and again on Dec. 30, and organized a carpenters union, with a goodly number of members. The weather was very cold and bad, but there was a good turnout. The start is at last made anyhow and the prospects are very good for success, as many carpenters in this city want to see a union. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Hilton, Brethauer, Valerius and [illegible] Scully.

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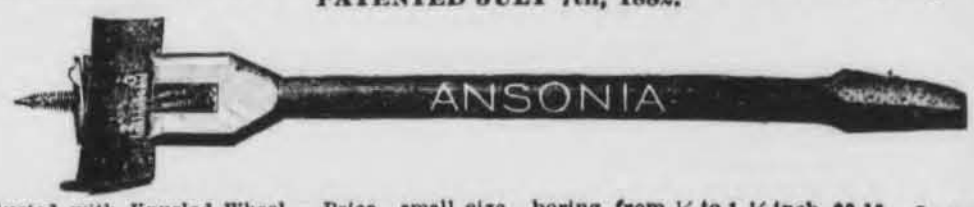

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, MARCH, 1884. NUMBER 3.

THE LABOR HALL IN PARIS.

Plans have been prepared for the construction of a large hall, to be called the *Salle de Travail*, or Labor Hall, in Paris, close to the Hotel de Ville, where men can meet their employers and arrange their terms. There will be besides the central hall, 80 rooms for the syndicates of different trades. The cost of construction is borne by the city. Such an institution would not be out of the way nearer home.

A WISE COURSE.

A new movement is reported among nail workers in the Amalgamated Association. The object is to stop work every year from June 1 until September 30, thereby causing all work in their line to be done in the cooler season, and to restrict the output. A wiser course could not be recommended.

NEW HAVEN CARPENTERS.

In New Haven, Conn., the Trades Council has assumed control of the New Haven *Evening Telegram*, and are making it a first-class daily paper, in the interest of the working classes. This is what it has to say in regard to the reduction of carpenters wages, which has been set in motion in that city by the Selectmen: Carpenters of New Haven, you ought to organize, Unorganized you will be but the footballs of capital; organized you will be the masters of capital, as you should be. But you need a broad organization one that will carry you all, be you white or black, foreign or native born; you need a Union that will not withhold its benefits from the more unfortunate in the craft. Let the Trades Council move in this matter.

VITAL STATISTICS OF HOUSE FRAMERS.

Statistics of the House Framers' Union of New York, for 1883, show a total of 159 cases of accident, 8 of which resulted in death. After four years experience they have concluded that the death rate in their occupation is not more than 7 to the 1000, although their business is more dangerous than carpenter work, owing to the fact that much of the framing work is on high buildings and is constantly perilous.

VICTORY OF THE GLASS WORKERS.

The example set by the Window Glass Workers' Association is one that should be studied. Those men have for seven months withstood the combined efforts of the capitalists to break up their association, and what is the result? They have preserved their union and saved themselves from the reduction of from ten to twenty per cent. in wages, and have compelled the surrender of their employers. Their determined stand throughout the terrible cold of this Winter has astounded their friends and enemies alike, showing, as it does, what an organization can do. Within the next five years the Window Glass Workers' Association, it is said, will own and control the glass trade of this country. During the strike nine co-operative glass factories were started by the workmen, and a number of others were started by them with the assistance of some capitalists. This is simply the fruit of thorough organization of skilled labor in one branch of productive industry. It is, however, a noteworthy fact that they are, as a rule, sober, steady, and prompt in the payment of their dues.

SAWDUST AND SHAVINGS.

—The Stone Cutters and Stone Masons of Pittsburgh are agitating the eight-hour plan to adopt it next Spring.

—The French Senate, 136 to 117, rejected the clause to the Trades Syndicate bill legalizing the federation of trades meetings.

—To make partial amends for their past behavior, and to regain the patronage of the working class, which boycotted them, Lorillard & Co., tobacco manufacturers, distributed $16,500 in cash as a holiday present to their employes. Who will say boycotting won't work?

—In Congress Representative Hopkins' bill for a Bureau of Labor Statistics has been favorably reported in the House. Senator Blair's bills for the enforcement of the Eight Hour Law on Government works, and for a Bureau of Labor Statistics have been likewise reported.

—A body of philosophical savants, known as the "American Social Science Association," met in national convention not long since and discussed the question of reducing the working time in factories, and they all agreed as to its propriety, but took no measures to carry it out. Evidently they concluded that the workingmen must combine and do it themselves.

—Peter J. Meany, a local political "boss" in Brooklyn, has disappeared. It is alleged that he has carried off $20,000 belonging to the Iron Moulders' National Union, of which he is treasurer, but the union is well secured by his bondsmen. So there is no danger to this well-tried organization.

THE DEMORALIZATION OF OUR YOUTHS.

In a convention of carriage makers Mr. John W. Bretton, a leading manufacturer of this city, said, very truly: "The greatest difficulty that we experience in New York is that of getting boys who have brains and are willing to learn a trade thoroughly. The example of men who have made millions in a few years is held up before our boys in school, and the boys become inflamed with the notion that they must make their millions and be able to found cross-roads colleges before they die. So they eschew trades and become poor professionals." This is one of the most powerful arguments ever brought to bear against the pernicious system of commercial or mercantile education now prevalent in our schools. Boys and girls are educated for the counting room and business house, and not for the productive interests of life. Hence they grow up with a scornful dislike for manual labor, and find their proper level as clerks, upon a salary of five or six dollars a week, rather than soil their shirt fronts or hands. The only remedy is technical education in our schools.

—Our Cincinnati and Covington members suffered by the recent Ohio floods, the latter suffering by far the most. We ought to have a contingent fund in our Brotherhood, so that when any such disaster would occur to any of the cities under our jurisdiction, we would be in a position to assist the Union with a donation of from 200 to [illegible] dollars, for the relief of its memb[illegible]

AN EMPLOYER'S OPINION.

In conversation with a reporter of the Troy *Evening Standard*, a leading boss builder of that city very ably summed up the benefits of trades unions even to employers when he said: "The bricklayers' union, which is recognized by all the builders of this city, has greatly aided me in the prosecution of my work. In making my estimates on a contract, labor is eliminated entirely. I know the wages I pay are identical with those paid by all other builders, and I therefore confine my figuring to material, the return I require on my investment, the risk, etc. I can see no reason why employers in all the trades should not look favorably upon unions, and so far as my experience goes, I have always found labor organizations more honest and considerate in their methods than similar organizations among capitalists and manufacturers."

TWISTING THE SCREWS.

The signs of the times are not very propitious. Many trades are suffering severe depression. Reductions of from 10 to 15 per cent. in wages are the rule now in the iron industries, the iron mills, nail mills, foundries, etc. Some have gone on strike and others have accepted upon condition that when the present crisis in the iron trade has passed the wages will be restored to their former standard. In many cases the mills have closed down entirely. The New England cotton mills are universally inaugurating the same policy, and strikes are threatened in many mills. In the large cities and everywhere throughout the country, large numbers of men are out of employment this Winter, and want and suffering are making themselves very apparent. And all this because Labor does not rouse itself and organize as it should to take control of the industrial and political interests of the nation.

AMALGAMATED CARPENTERS.

From the February report of the Amalgamated Carpenters we learn that their total membership is 22,935 in 400 branches, scattered all over the globe. They have 1,442 members on unemployed benefit, 592 on sick benefit, and 24 on superannuation (old age) benefit. The state of trade is very dull in Great Britain and Ireland, and overstocked in New Zealand and Australia.

A case of some interest as affecting trade unions is reported from England. The case came before the Kenilworth magistrates. John Wootton, a builder, of Milverton, was summoned by David Aitkins, carpenter, under the Employers and Workmen's Act, to show cause why he should not pay 1s. 2d., in lieu of two hours usually allowed for grinding tools. Mr. Davies, of Leamington, appeared for the complainant, instructed by the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. It was stated that since the summons had been issued the defendant had paid the money, and the Bench considered that proper cause had not been shown, and gave the complainant costs.

—The mass-meeting of the Covington, Ky., carpenters last month, was well attended. Addresses were made by W. B. Ogden, John Valerius, I Aitken, Mr. Stein, D. Connolly, Gus. Brethauer, and J. B. Nichols. The new union is gaining strength at each meeting, and soon will rank among the best.

TRADE NOTES.

—All that is needed to cause the arrest of a peaceable citizen in Troy, N. Y., is to allege that he is a union iron molder.

—Trouble exists between the carpenters and the bosses at New Haven, Conn. The men are unorganized, hence the trouble.

—The House Framers' Union of this city will demand an advance of 25 cents per day, beginning on May 1 next.

—In Saginaw Valley, Mich., the wages of carpenters are $1.50 to $2 per day. The Bay City *Vindicator* calls upon the craft to organize in that locality.

—Bills in favor of weekly payments of wages in factories, workshops, etc., are now pending in the Legislatures of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

—It is reported that the Treasurer of the Iron Molders' Union of North America has absconded with $20,000. It will not materially affect this powerful organization.

—The trades unions in the flooded districts along the Ohio have given liberally from their scanty means to alleviate distress, while the millionaires buttoned up their pockets closely.

—Employers who have taken advantage of the dull times by forcing a reduction of wages on their employes, must not feel offended if the employes retaliate when times get better and business improves.

—Bricklayers' Union No. 5, of Cleveland, O., has opened a reading room for the accommodation of its members to keep them off the streets when out of work and to furnish them a place for social enjoyment.

—The Chinese Restriction Act has proven itself a failure. Thousands of Mongolian coolies are entering our ports under the guise of business men, students and travellers upon certificates furnished by Chinese officials in China.

—The cotton mill operatives at Fall River, Mass., are on strike against a reduction in wages. In eleven mills the spinners are all out. The manufacturers are threatening to close down the mills entirely. The reduction in pay will make wages 41 per cent. less than in 1873.

—Senator George, of Mississippi, has introduced a bill in the U. S. Senate to protect the lives and limbs of employes and servants in the railroad and marine service. It is a complete Employer's Liability Act as far as these interests are concerned, and has been reported favorably.

—One of the most dastardly acts of injustice and persecution was the conviction of Robert Howard, Secretary of the Miners' National Union, upon a trumped-up charge with a view to drive him from Fall River, Mass., and to destroy his influence among the cotton operatives of New England. But Bob has grit, and in the present strike of the operatives he has shown himself a man not to be trifled with.

—Senator Blair has introduced several labor bills into Congress. The latest are in favor of legalizing the incorporation of National Trades Unions, of paying Government employes back pay due under the Eight Hour Law, and in opposition to contract convict labor. His bills for the enforcement of the Eight Hour Law, for a Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Employers' Liability, have been reported favorably by the Committee on Education and Labor, and are now on the calendar.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, MARCH, 1884.

THE CRY OF WILD DESPAIR.

Bread, bread, bread,
Is the cry of wild despair
Of men who have toiled by the furnace fires,
And women who once were fair;
The cry of beggary comes
From the lands beyond the seas;
And millions, worn by toil, must mourn
That a few may live at ease.

Bread, bread, bread,
A world in its bondage calls,
While robbery bold creeps uncontrolled
Through the nation's stately halls.
There are men of wealth and power,
Who are rotten to the core;
And our laws are made the rich to aid,
And to plunder the worthy poor.

R. I. HALL.

SAVE YOUR CHISEL HANDLES.

All carpenters know how soon the butt ends of chisels split, when daily exposed to the blow of a mallet or hammer. A remedy suggested by a Brooklyn man consists simply in sawing or cutting off the round end of the handle so as to make it flat, and attaching by a few small nails on the top of it two round disks of sole leather, so that the end becomes similar to the heel of a boot. The two thicknesses of leather will prevent all further splitting, and if, in the course of time, they expand and overlap the wood of the handle, they are simply trimmed off all around.

A TORNADO PROOF HOUSE.

A house built to withstand tornadoes, so the Minnesota *Tribune* says, is that of a banker, the wealthiest man in Osakis, Minn, All the corners are acute angles, and the sides sink back into other angles, giving this architectural freak the contour of a star. From the highest point of the roof the gutters sink suddenly, making great depressions. This angularity was, it is said, inspired by the banker's wife, who lives in constant dread of storms. The corners were made very sharp, to split tornadoes, The cellar walls are of unusual thickness, and the timbers of the structure are anchored in them, so that the house may not be blown down without taking up the foundations. All the weather boarding is put on in oblique lines.

THE TRIANGLE.

The following is taken from a speech delivered by J. Gash, Esq., before the San Francisco Chapter, American Institute of Architects.

The Triangle may indeed be justly called the Alpha of architectural design, we have only to study the architecture of Egypt, Greece, and Rome, and for its zenith we may take Gothic architecture in France, Germany, and England; and there we see it applied in almost every portion of those sacred edifices that were erected throughout Christendom.

That Christianity should lay a strong claim to its use in her sacred edifices, is not much to be wondered at, as the foundation of its belief was based on the trinity of which the *triangle* is so justly symbolical.

Besides its use amongst the ancients as a symbol of the Diety, having neither beginning nor end, and being perfect in all its parts, it is not strange that it should be readily applied by Christians in buildings erected by them for worship.

The crystals of gold, the noblest of metals, is an equilateral triangle. The diamond, the most valuable of gems, crystallizes in the form of the octahedron, each face forming an equilateral triangle.

That its use was well known to the Egyptians, we have only to study the architecture of her pyramids, and there we see its use was almost as well known as it is by ourselves at the present day. In their me[illegible] to M. Jorn[illegible] ian antiqu[illegible] sides mea[illegible] frequently [illegible] and was s[illegible] triangle. universal nature. The base representing Osiris, or the male principal; the perpendicular, Isis or the female principle; and the hypoten[illegible] Hor[illegible] air son, [illegible] the product of t[illegible] those wi[illegible] charge of [illegible] them to the custom[illegible] equivalent [illegible] signs.

On the numbers, 3, 4, and 5, is based the solution of the 47th proposition in Euclid, that the square of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the other two sides, supposed to be discovered by Pythagorus; but Plutarch and other ancient writers say that this solution was well known to the Egyptian priests and communicated to him.

Its use amongst pagan nations we find by reading heathen mythology. The double triangle of five points being worn as a talisman and an emblem of health, and was also used as an emblem of fellowship. This form of double triangle is sometimes called the five-pointed star, and perhaps for the above reasons has been adopted as an emblem in our national flag. The double equilateral triangle being an emblem of perfection, with the all-seeing eye, has been adopted by Free Masonry, and worn by its members to the present day.

That the triangle was used in Grecian and Roman architecture, we have only to examine the geometrical construction of their theaters, and there we see it brought into use more especially in a Roman theater described by Vitruvius, where he speaks of four equilateral triangles being so placed that their points must so touch the circumference of the circle which formed the ground plan of the auditorium.

That its use was known for both its advantage in shedding the rain off the roofs of buildings, and also as a matter of strength, we may see in many of the Roman buildings, especially the Roman Pantheon, and the Temple of Peace, founded by Cladius.

But it is in the Christian epoch that it has been especially used, and its different variations mark the several changes of Gothic architecture.

THE TRUE REMEDY.

While many people declare that machinery is a benefit to the Working classes and not an evil, it may be a pertinent question in this connection, to ask for a satisfactory solution of the problem of overproduction. In the old times, before the days of the mill and factory, carpenters were busy all winter in getting out work to be "put-up" in building in the following spring and summer.

Nearly everthing that goes to make up a house now-a-days, in the shape of wood work, is prepared by machinery. Now, what is the inevitable result of this? Go ask a thousand carpenters who are idle at the present moment, and who were idle last winter and the winter before that, and they will tell you that machinery has supplanted them; that it is now doing the work which was formerly done by their hands, and that machinery is encroaching more and more upon their trade every day. While we contend that it would be useless for the skilled mechanic to attempt anything like the suppression of machinery, yet we do hold that they should off-set its out-come, over-production, by reducing the number of hours of toil. Should machinery still gain in the race, let a further reduction be made.—*Baltimore Free Press.*

CHINESE TRADES UNIONS.

It may not be generally known that among the Chinese in San Francisco there exist labor unions, but such is the fact. Among those now active in Chinatown are a union of sewer diggers who were recently on a strike for ten-hour shifts, which point they carried; one of first-class cooks; an express wagon protective union, which fixes the prices to be charged within the limits of Chinatown, and shoemakers' and cigarmakers' unions There is also a laundry-men's union, which provides for the observance of Monday as a holiday for wash-house employes, and takes up collections for the burial of its dead members. Now that the Chinese organize, what must be thought of the Caucasian who stands outside of the ranks of unionism?

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A GOVERNOR'S LABOR MESSAGE.

On Jan. 16, Gov. Robert M. McLane, of Maryland, sent a special message on labor measures to the Legislature. Owing to the crowded condition of our columns last month we could not publish it; but as it is of such an interesting and sound character, we reproduce its most salient features, for the benefit of those of our readers who have not yet seen it:

The conflict between capital and labor, from the earliest periods of history, interested all States and communities. To the honor of our mother country, it may be said that it gave birth to those combinations of working people who were first known in history as "guilds," in our day as trades unions. In their true and best sense, trades unions are voluntary associations, non-political and non-sectarian, whose fundamental object is to secure the most favorable conditions for labor. This includes, of course, their efforts to raise wages, to resist a reduction in wages, and to limit the hours of labor, and to regulate methods of employment or working, and to secure their health and general well-being.

No matter how these objects were regarded in the past, they have now received the sanction of law, and command the respect and sympathy of the most enlightened communities in the world. The fundamental principles of trades union is the voluntary principle which is essential to their existence, every man being at perfect liberty to join it or not, at his will. To coerce a man to join is as vicious as an attempt to interfere to prevent him from joining if he desires to do so. No man has a right to force one to do or to abstain from what he thinks right. This voluntary principle lies at the foundation of our political liberty, and is guaranteed to us by our constitution. It is a principle that all trades-union people should hold sacred, in remembrance of the long struggle they have maintained to secure the right of combination this right of combination being simply the right of many to do what one has always had the right to do singly!

The employer has always had the right to do, whether in combination or singly, what he pleased. Without the right of combination the workingman was at a great disadvantage, and could rarely command a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. With combination they have accomplished wonderful results, and stand on an equality with their employers; because, like them, they have the means of waiting and seeking what they deem fair wages.

Most of the evils which firmly attached to these combinations of workingmen grew out of hostile legislation, interfering with the natural rights of the workingmen, exciting the latter to reckless violence, as mischievious to themselves as to the community. This whole subject has received great development within the last ten or fifteen years in Great Britain, and some of the most conspicuous statesmen have illustrated the excellence of this principle of combination, and defined its legitimate sphere of action, and the legislation which I now recommend is substantially the same as has been already enacted by the British Parliament.

I refrain from any detailed discussion of this proposed legislation, because I have confined my recommendation to the limit of actual experiment, where the result has been in the highest degree beneficial to the community. In Great Britain these trades unions have been recognized by law, and have produced more wonderful results than in this country. By means of weekly contributions, varying from 5 cents to 25 cents per week, the funds being sometimes separated into trade funds and benefit funds, many thousands of families have been kept from pauperism, and the workingmen themselves have been greatly improved in their domestic and social feelings, and their self-respect as members of the community has been greatly increased. Those who suppose that these trades-union funds are only used to sup[illegible] out of work, or, on [illegible] controversies with their [illegible] established to learn to [illegible] could not find [illegible], and how many, [illegible] been paupers, [illegible] all the help necessary until they could find work. The out-of-work fund and benefit or donation fund are entirely dist[illegible]t from the strike-pay fund. More th[illegible] millions of dollars have be[illegible]by four trades unions in the first two funds since their first organization in Great Britain, and the results of the expenditure of the latter fund will not prove less satisfactory. More than a million of workingmen are embraced in the membership of these trades unions, which have an annual income of ten millions of dollars, and a reserve fund of about the same amount. For many years capitalists, jurists and legislators objected to this fund as an illegitimate object of trades unions, and as constituting a criminal combination, and even after the statute law recognized this object as legal, the means by which it was sought to be carried out were adjudged illegal, and the trades unions were harassed and hindered in all their operations, and their members punished for doing what was lawful for an individual to do under both common and statute law. But now the object and the means are declared to be lawful, unless, indeed, the combination be to commit a crime, which would be a crime if committed by an individual. The legislation which I submit for your consideration preserves this distinction, and makes legal the association which would otherwise be illegal. The rules and regulations of these trades unions, wherever they exist, are very interesting, and are framed in an intelligent spirit, determining when strike-pay shall be allowed, and prescribing proper methods to obtain advance of wages or reducing the hours of labor; or, indeed, any special benefit sought by workingmen.

The history of their proceedings has vindicated their right and capacity to enjoy the privilege of self-government, and has tended more than anything else, in Great Britain, to insure the triumph of those liberal statesmen, who advocate an extension of suffrage. It is very extraordinary that we, in this State, have been so slow in adopting these great principles of reform, which affect so materially the dignity and the welfare of the people. Of late years, in all trades, there has been a reduction in the hours of labor. I know of no commercial or manufacturing establishment in which the number of working hours has not been reduced, either on every day or on some special day. Excessive work, either from the long time occupied, or overwork while working, is injurious both mentally and physically to the workman, and diminishes the productive power of the worker.

So far as experience goes the reduction of the hours of labor has proved satisfactory and beneficial to those employed and to the employer. This applies to all kinds of labor. The nominal day of work is not the actual day, for the workman has generally to walk anywhere from one to three miles to his work. It is impossible to avoid these distances between his home and the work. Eight hours a day, actual work, with the necessary time for dinner and the ordinary time of going to and returning from work, makes a ten or twelve-hour day.

During the dark days of feudal tyranny, and for centuries afterwards, no amount of work that human endurance could stand was considered too much, and it was not till the beginning of the present century that any real appreciative effort was made in the interest of labor to protect men, women and children from excessive toil, and to preserve their health. The details given before commissions and committees of inquiry showed that thousands of children were physically ruined by overwork, and so crippled and maimed that they were unable to support themselves and became paupers.

Without pursuing this question further, I recommend that no child under ten years of age should be allowed to work at all, and that eight hours should be the actual working day for women and children under sixteen years of age, and that the same number of hours should be the actual working day for men employed in any factory or manufacturing establishment, making it competent for men to contract with their employers to work for a longer period each day. There is a great yearning among workingmen for an eight-hour day, but most employers are opposed to it. My recommendations are made in the interest of the whole community, inspired, I hope, by the belief that the additional leisure secured to the workingman will result in great improvement in his moral and physical nature, and is also in every way in the interest of the employer.

Trenton, N. J.

Prospects for work for Spring are looking good; there seems to be considerable building in contemplation of erection.

LIBERTY AS DEFINED BY THE CAPITALISTS.

What is Liberty! Liberty is the inalienable right to fill our pockets at all hazards, for the fittest, viz: those that have the most money will survive. It is the right to do with our money whatever we please. To monopolize land, railroads, telegraphs, provisions, etc., and to charge a good-natured public all we can get for these commodities. To build factories according to our own notions of propriety—sanitary supervision is a nuisance, causing over-population. To engage all the child-labor we can obtain—happy creatures they become angels as soon as they die. To unite for the protection of our class interests. To prevent the wage-workers by means of the starvation whip from doing likewise. Constitutions differ, what is good for one is not good for another. To discharge our employes whenever we choose and then have them arrested as vagrants and tramps if they cannot show visible means of support. To have the militia shoot them down if they become too noisy in their clamor for bread and employment—we have too many of these rascals anyhow. It is the right to control our voting cattle. To bribe judges and pack juries. To subsidize the press and the pulpit for the sake of eulogizing the present order of things and villifying those satanic organizations, the Trades Unions, Knights of Labor and the Socialists, who are undermining our liberties. To reduce the wages of our employes in order to make them more sober and meek and fitter subjects for Paradise; for the more they suffer here the sooner will they reach heaven. In consideration of these liberties we are willing to accord the workingmen the right to choose their masters; and if out of employment, they are at liberty to starve or hang themselves.

Mammon is Mammon and I am his prophet.

"The public be damned!"—*New Haven Telegram.*

THE BARBARITY OF CHILD LABOR.

The first annual report of Lawrence T. Fell, Inspector of Child Labor in New Jersey, has just been printed.

The new law went into effect in July last. The census of 1880 shows that 12,000 children and youths were employed in 7,000 factories in the State, and Mr. Fell says that these figures are inadequate to cover the evil as it existed when he entered upon the duties of his office.

He found everywhere that the child-labor system had left indelible traces of mental and physical degeneration, as it is bound to do, in the careworn children with dwarfed bodies. He saw countless young women who were physical wrecks from being employed at an early age for long hours amid machinery. The illiteracy of children whom be met in factories was shocking. Many of them had never been to school at all. Some of them did not know the name of the State in which they lived, and had not the slightest conception of right or wrong. He occasionally gave permit for the employment of children who were orphans, or were the chief support of widowed mothers.

Child-labor has increased in much greater ratio than adult labor has, and the increase has been at the expense of the latter, as it has decreased the wages of parents and adults. In many cases the wages have been so reduced that parents were forced to call upon their children to help maintain their homes.

A WARNING.

To note the abuse of the Press.—In Seattle, W. T., we have a would-be contractor that kept a standing advertisement in the daily papers for carpenters during the month of April, 1883, with the avowed purpose of inducing carpenters to come to Seattle in such numbers that they would be glad to accept employment under any terms. The atrocity of this act and other ostentatious advertising is explained in the fact that at the present time there are over 120 carpenters out of employment in the small town of Seattle and the necessaries of life cost $7 per week. Remember, when mechanics are out of a job, cigars, lemonade and opera singing are not considered among the necessaries of life. Take a friendly warning and save expense and disappointment.

Published by the Carpenters' Union of Seattle, W. T., February 9, 1884.

J. HOWARD, Secretary.

ARE WE TO BE MADE IRON-CLAD SLAVES?

In olden times the labor class was held in obedience to the dictates of their rulers, masters and owners through a system of superstitious fear, concocted by the enlightened and intelligent masters to keep the slaves in humble submission to authority and the right of robbery. The poor devil who failed in his duty or rebelled at being robbed, the whipping post, the dungeon or the guillotine was his sad fate.

The money autocrats have built up a system of society as well as an industrial system that must before many generations topple and fall of its own rottenness, if the people themselves don't overthrow it.

It is saying a good deal in these days of steam and electricity, of science and invention to say that men are ignorant. No doubt the densest human ignorance would to-day damn the superstitious ignorance that burned the witches of Salem. But I tell you the people of the twentieth century will damn the blind stupidity and ignorance of the workers of the nineteenth century, for permitting in this day of boasted intelligence the pauperization of the industrial classes and the centralization of wealth, subjecting the many to misery, crime and degradation.

The purse-proud arrogant master of to-day does not cast his slaves into dungeons or punish them at the whipping post. No need of that trouble; they simply lock their factory doors—a lock-out—and demand of their belligerent slaves to sign away their right of being men and promise to allow them (the masters) to rob them (the slaves) whenever the profits of the slaves, labor does not aggregate 90 per cent. After the slave has signed away his liberty and consented to be fleeced, the ruffled frame of the intelligent master assumes its former dignity, and the intelligent worker returns to his luxurous home in the slums, to his poverty, his misery and his degradation. Verily a happy man, because his master did not make him sign away his right of franchise or his hope of heaven.

Liberty is still left him to ballot for the machine candidate nominated at the dictation of the masters to make his (the slave's) poverty more certain, his misery keener and his wants greater, a few cents more or less per day is of small consequence. That means that the workingmen of America are blind, ignorant and indifferent to their own condition. And it is true there is greater work for the few organized men in the country to do than to quibble and quarrel over offices or who shall fill them, or any small question of the kind.

The signing of the iron clad by the Telegraphers last Summer led to the signing away of the rights of the oil cloth printers here in this city, who organized to stop a wrong in the shape of a robbery. Each printer has a helper employed by the firm, the printer is charged 6 dollars per week for the helper and the firm pays the helper $5 and keeps the other dollar This leaves the journeymen from $10 to $12 per week where he used to get $15 to $18. The men organized and the firm locked them out and issued the following ukase:

"We are informed that a number of men in our employ have joined a trades union. Our past experience and the experience of all trades is that such combinations invariably result in disaster both to employer and employe, and, therefore such action on your part must receive our strongest condemnation."

Then they had their slaves sign the following iron clad:

"First. If I belong to a trade organization I will resign and have no connection, direct or indirect, with any trades union.

Second. That I do not intend to become a member of any such organization. If I have so agreed I do now pledge myself not to join any trades union or association so long as I am in this firm's employ."

It is plain that dangers menace the workers. Superstitions are not used nowadays to keep men in submission, but the knock-down argument, "Take my terms or starve." Let no man say that it is useless to bring men into the union, for you know not the day when your employers will produce the inevitable iron clad and request you to sign or quit. Unless we hold the power of organization, many good, honest and liberty-loving workmen will be sacrificed to the selfish greediness of things that are not men nor mechanics, *but pitiful, abject slaves.*

Organize, Agitate, Educate! Remember the ballot will not save you if you are not a unit both in your union and at the polls. In private gatherings discuss the political situation and the best methods of ridding our public offices of thieves and monopolists. In your unions discuss the best methods of making your unions a power, and the best and most feasible method of revolutionizing the industrial system to the extent of the greatest good for the greatest number. Up and act, or we will be a race of iron-clad slaves!

AJAX.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.

SOMEBODY TURNING THE WHEEL.

At the annual dinner of the Board of Trade in Trenton, N. J., recently, Labor was recognized in the following sentiment:

Labor—The executive arm which makes capital productive, and skill effective, and reduces to form the conceptions of the brain. May its claim to just reward never be overlooked.

The toast was appropriately responded to. But the handsomest speech of the evening was that of Judge Buchanan, in response to the toast of the "Learned Professions." In his remarks he said:

Years ago, in Munich, a certain man announced that he had discovered perpetual motion. In the centre of a large hall was a curious-looking wheel revolving within an open frame, supported by four simple wooden feet. No means of motion were apparent, and yet the wheel revolved. Hours lengthened into days; days grew to weeks, weeks to months, and months passed into years, and still, steadily and surely, the wheel kept on. And as time rolled on and the wheel ceased not in its revolutions, the wonder grew. Thousands flocked to see the marvel. Wealth filled the coffers of the inventor, and his fame was sounded far and wide. But one day a visitor more curious than the others struck with his stick one of the feet upon which the frame rested. It gave a hollow sound. In a moment he had cut into the wood and found it hollow. Within the cavity was an endless cord. This was found to pass up the foot within another cavity in the bed-piece of the frame, and around a small pinion upon the shaft, concealed within the journal. He then broke into the apartment below and found the cord to pass beneath the floor and between that and the ceiling below, to a closet at the end, and then to ascend. He then searched the rooms above. Floor after floor was visited and yet the cord stretched upward until at the very top, in a miserable attic, he found it passed around another and a larger wheel provided with a crank; and there, too, they found, emaciated with hunger, clothed in rags, crouching against a miserable pallet of straw, yet ever steadily turning the wheel, the own brother of the inventor. And through all those weary years, unknown and in suffering, he had been wearily and steadily turning on and on.

Mr. President, I make no application; none is needed. And yet as I listened a few moments ago to those eloquent remarks about Capital and Labor and their mutual dependence, this incident came to my mind, and with it the query whether, while we are sounding the praises of our great manufacturing interests, and consider—and truly and justly so, too—what great things they have done for us as a city, we do not sometimes fail to remember that *somebody is turning the wheel.* Poor, unnoticed, unknown to fame he may be, yet his trained eye and skillful hand are ever needed, else the marvel ceases.

LETTER FROM GERMANY.

BERLIN, Feb. 12, 1884.—The National Union of Carpenters in Germany is making splendid progress. We have local unions in over 30 cities, and the membership, which now numbers over 1,900, is rapidly increasing. Every attempt has been made by the carpenter bosses of this city to reduce our wages from the advance we secured last May, but by a united front we have been able to prevent them. The local union of this city has granted a loan of 400 marks to the National Union to put an organizer in the field and start new unions.

A National Union of Cabinet Makers was formed December 27, in a congress of the trade at Mayence. 39 cities were represented.

The *Zeitschrift der Zimmerkunst*, organ of the National Union of Carpenters in Germany, lately writes to warn the workingmen of Germany against emigrating to America too hastily. It points to the fact that at all the great railroad stations of Germany the wretched picture of thousands of returning emigrants in hunger and distress is daily presented. Their tattered clothing and destitute appearance is indeed pitiable, and among them are hundreds of good carpenters and mechanics, who were deluded into leaving their homes to find it all in vain to secure a fortune or even work in America.

EIN GESELLE.

GERMANY.—The weavers of Neumünster, in Holstein, are on strike against 20 per cent. reduction in wages.—300 hatters—men and women—in Altenburg went out Jan. 23, against a sick-benefit system of a boss who promised to give 50 per cent. and did not keep his word. Workers want to manage it themselves, and want no interference with the bosses.

LAND GRANTS AND HENRY GEORGE.

DAYTON, Ohio.—From every shop the complaint of dull times comes. Sometimes I think, the crisis which is due by this time, is coming upon us. The number of factories here made a favorable impression upon me, but they are generally running short time or else only with a few men to work. The next crisis will come soon from present indications and it will be even more terrible than the last. Many have not yet crawled out of the debris of the last wreck. Congress has at last taken hold of the question of railroad lands. Politicians are now going to reap the results of our agitation for it is only due to the labor agitation, that the question was ever brought before the people. It is good that the issue is being developed. The letters of Huntington exposed the rascality of the whole matter and no doubt made many more open to hear radical labor ideas. The undercurrent of public thought is slowly setting this way, and every rascality exposed as in these Land Grants is making converts. Think of fortunes aggregating hundreds of millions coined out of an original capital of $11,500 advanced 20 years ago. Every cent ought to be confiscated, and Huntington tried before a jury. If found guilty of undermining the liberties and laws of the republic by bribing public officials both he and they ought to be punished. Still the system would again produce similar monstrosities and thus our efforts must always again be recalled to changing societary principles rather than lopping off a few of their results.

I have been studying Henry George and trying to digest his theory of rent or land values being confiscated by a tax. Still I do not grasp the idea fully. One must either find out why it is that the remedy is not understood and where it is in error, or else acknowledge one's incapability of understanding the subject. I have discovered one important flaw in his apparently unequalled chain of logic, and that is where he justifies Interest on Capital by referring to the increase of stock, the increased value of wine through age, etc., as due to certain "vital powers of nature outside and distinct from labor." In short while in the beginning he divided his subject into Land, Labor and Capital, in this chapter he divides it into Land, Labor, Capital and *Vital forces of nature.* If you will compare his chapter on Interest with that on Land and Capital, it can be detected where he insensibly substitutes a fourth power or factor in order to justify Interest to Capital. According to his own reasoning Land ought to include these vital forces of nature just as it does natural fertility, water power, etc., or if Labor "disturbed and directed this force, which he acknowledges its power to do, within narrow and prescribed limits however," then it is a *result* of labor and belongs to it and not Capital. He takes care to define *Profits* as distinct from Interest, yet so long as private capital exists it is impossible to draw the dividing line where one begins and the other ends. Besides his theory does not account for the fact, noticeably observed why the landed aristocracy was superseded by the manufacturing bourgeois; why old families were compelled to intermarry with these upstarts to maintain their influence.

Indeed the distinctive feature of social development during the past 100 years is the abdication of the land owners to the manufacturers, and the fact that in England many of the old estates passed into the hands of brewers, soap and candle manufacturers, iron men, etc., etc.

Still my thoughts are as yet too crude upon this subject to claim that Henry George is wrong and my intention is to merely put them down on paper that a third party may be able to judge of the relation of the matter more clearly than I am able to do now.

JOHN EHMANN.

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— der —

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184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, MARCH, 1884.

—In case a great crisis comes upon our people, as come it will, and soon, when hundreds of thousands will be thrown idle and penniless, what measures should we then take to relieve the distress, or what remedies shall we propose to prevent the continual recurrence of such a state of things: The columns of this journal are open for the discussion of this problem.

—During 1883, there have been a total of 18 strikes in this city, involving in all 44,930 men. Ten of those strikes were successful, one partly successful, five were failures and two are not finished. The building trades alone in this city have added nearly two and a-half million dollars to their wages the past year, counting only 25 cents a day increase on the average. Who will say that this advance would have ever been obtained without organization?

—A peti[illegible] culation in the vario[illegible] ricts to me- stitution of ington, D. C. district of Colum- ed and have no vote, ganizations of Washington their fellow workmen all over Union to sign these petitions. Copies can be had from G. Edmonston, 719 Twelfth street, N. W. Washington, D. C.

WHY?

If Congress and State Legislatures understand their duties as representative bodies, why are banking, railroad, telegraph, mining and manufacturing corporations permitted, and protected in conducting business with their fellow-citizens on the principle of grasping and irresponsible monopoly, heedless and ruinous competition, and shameless extortion in the shape of profits and dividends, thus causing thousands of honest citizens to lie idle, and many who are idle, to subsist with their families on a scanty pittance?

TO ALL THE LOCAL UNIONS.

Our General President, J. P. McGINLEY, of Chicago, visited Philadelphia on Feb. 18, and remained there until Feb. 27, and on his return stopped at Washington, Cincinnati and Indianapolis, paying a friendly visit to those unions. On Feb. 22, in company with ex-President John D. Allen, he visited Trenton Union, No. 31, and gave them encouragement. On Feb. 26, in conjunction with the new General Trustees, he examined into the entire affairs of the Brotherhood, and the books were audited by them, and everything found to be perfectly satisfactory. A full report will be sent to the local unions. All that now remains is for each and every union and every member to do full duty to the Brotherhood, and we will soon stand second to no other labor organization in the country.

WHAT ORGANIZATION CAN DO.

Not more than a few years ago men would ask us with sarcastic significance: "What will this labor agitation ever amount to?"

All the reasoning in the world could not convince some of these men that the agitation would ever amount to anything. We had an up-hill fight and a hard contest. Everywhere there was an apparently hopeless indifference among the working classes—the very people to be benefitted by the agitation.

Still the men in the labor movement pressed on in their work, and now we behold the results. More than a dozen labor bills are now pending in Congress, while Governor McLane, of Maryland has made the labor question the subject of a special message, and the same issues are up for consideration in the Legislatures of every State in the Union, either in one form or another.

All this could never have been accomplished, nor could the countless other concessions, wrung from the capitalists, have ever been obtained, were it not for labor organization and agitation. In this work the trades unions have done their part.

Seven short months ago, the coal miners of Iowa organized, and ever since then they kept up a vigorous campaign in favor of the unity of the miners, politically as well as industrially. The result is, the Governor of Iowa has sent a message to the Legislature in behalf of the miners, advocating mine ventilation and other labor measures for the protection of the health and lives of the workers. A committee on mines and mining (the first in the history of Iowa), has been chosen in both houses, and all the representatives of coal producing counties, regardless of party politics, are pledged to these bills. And all this, because 6,170 miners are organized in Iowa, and the politicians fear their votes. Let all other occupations heed this lesson.

CHANGES IN OUR CONSTITUTION.

MORRIS, MINN.

The last number of THE CARPENTER received, and its contents perused with pleasure. I now take the liberty of making a few suggestions in reference to the Amendments to our Constitution, as the time for the Convention is approaching, and I think it is better that amendments should now be discussed fully, and I hope other members will express their views of the subject.

First.—I am in favor of amending Sec. 3, Art. 1. of Constitution, so as to hold Conventions biennially.

Second.—To amend Sec. 1, Art. 2, of Constitution, so as to have but 2 Vice-Presidents, and a District Organizer in each State and Territory, District of Columbia, and Dominion of Canada.

Third.—To amend Sec. 1, Art. 3, of Constitution, making the General President a General Organizer.

Fourth.—To amend Sec. 4, Art. 3, of Constitution, so as the two General Vice-Presidents be assistant General Organizers,

Fifth.—To amend Sec. 3, Art. 7½, of Constitution, so as to have the E. B. regulate the amount of per capita tax to be paid by Local Unions, so as not to be greater than 7½c. per month for each member in good standing.

Sixth.—To amend Sec. 1, Art. 8, of Constitution, so as to have seven qualified carpenters in every village, or city, to be entitled to organize Local Unions.

Seventh.—To amend Sec. 10, Art. 8, of Constitution, so as that after a Local Union be organized three months, the initiation fee shall not be less than $2.00, and monthly dues not less than 50c.

Eighth.—To amend Sec. 3, Art. 12, of Constitution, as to have each Local Union set aside 10c. per capita (instead of 10c.) per month for Funeral Benefit Fund. Disability Benefit of Art. 13.

Ninth.—To create Art. 14 of Constitution for a Sick Benefit Fund, of $5.00 per week for members who are 6 months in a Local Union, and 10c. per capita be set aside for said fund.

Tenth.—To create Art. 15 for a Tool Benefit Fund, and 2½c. per capita be set for said fund.

Eleventh.—To create Art. 16 for equalization of funds every three months. And to amend the General Laws and Local Rules to correspond.

I make these suggestions in hopes that others may suggest their views. I am always willing to do anything that may be of interest and the most beneficial to the labor class.

P. A. McCARTHY.

[illegible] Connecticut.

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custom
equivalent [illegible] signa

THE SLAVE MARKET OF TO-DAY.

Puck has presented to the workingmen of this country an illustration worthy of being placed in every workingman's dwelling. It shows how protection politicians sell out the laboring class to the capitalists of the country for "lower, lower wages." It shows clearly the foolishness of the old conservative trade union leaders who don't know anything else, only "High tariff makes high wages." It shows clearly that all American labor papers that are standing on the platform of high tariff have been in error. At present those trades which are favored with high tariff are suffering the most, and in the iron trade particularly. This shows clearly that high tariff is only a hobby for the capitalists themselves, and the manufacturers are riding it for the purpose of having the chance to rob the people of 25 per cent. more than those manufacturers whose wares are not protected. Those workingmen who were aroused for their employers' hobby were fooled to run after "protective tariff," because it is grinding down the working class just the same as Free Trade. In reality both are phantoms that disappear when the workingmen want to cling to them for help. The old conservative trades unions must accept a more radical standpoint, or they will be crushed by their own favored monopolists. Those political wire pullers who are sneaking into the unions and defending high tariff have to be paralyzed by the union men, and men with more courage, more brains and sounder principles have to step to the front.

We have to go down to the root of society to find out what regulates the wages and not skim around the surface, for if the source of the evil that is enslaving the working class is not stopped, it will always produce the same results.

Puck's illustration is true in so far as it unmasks the false hope of high tariff, but it does not state the real course of labor's degradation. If *Puck* is of the opinion that the abatement of high tariff will better the condition of the laboring class and will prevent reductions of wages in the present age, then it has the wool drawn over its eyes, but it can not draw it over ours. We know that our wages are regulated by our own competition, and neither high tariff or free trade do away with that. We know that wages cannot raise much higher than is necessary to support our families, and cannot stay very long down at starvation point. At the highest rate it will increase and improve machinery, and therefore strengthen the productive means in the hands of the capitalists. It will encourage immigration, and increase the number of good workingmen through good nourishment and marriages so far that the labor market will be in the course of time overcrowded, and consequently wages will fall again. And at the lower rate the number of workingmen will soon grow smaller and smaller 'till the labor market is empty and a new demand for labor will raise the wages up to a higher rate.

All efforts of the labor organizations to regulate the labor market have failed, because the problem is such a great one that it needs the co-operation of the workingmen of all nations. The labor market today is *international* and not *national*.

Our pork dealers are angry because American statesmen have failed to secure the repeal of the anti-American pig law in Germany and France, but nevertheless a good deal is sold and is therefore reducing the wages of the butchers and the profit of the hog-raisers in Europe. London is fixing the price of American wheat and Rio de Janeiro settles the price of coffee. The American watch industry has brought idleness and distress to the people in Switzerland, and the development of our iron industry has compelled thousands of workingmen of England and Wales to come to this country.

Great problems can only be solved by great means. The emancipation of the laboring class can only be accomplished by breaking down the oppressive wage system. The system of hirelings and bosses must cease. Trades unions must get ready to accept this idea. It don't pay to fool around patching up the old rotten ship; the patches don't hold anymore. Trades unions must take a step forward and prepare themselves to take productive industries in their own hands. They must get the land, the machinery and the raw materials into their hands to accomplish it. Talking about tariff and free trade is lost time, because it is a subject that does not benefit the working class. It is a subject of the past, and no matter how it is settled it benefits the capitalists and does not help us.

The reduction of the hours of labor is the only real means to improve our condition under the present system of wage slaves and masters. By doing so we curtail the time in which we are robbed, we are able to strengthen our brains by more mental exercise. We can then shorten the profit of the capitalists and force them to introduce more machinery. More machinery means sharper competition among themselves. Sharp competition means more failures, more millionaires and less middlemen and more laborers. More laborers means more soldiers on our side and less force on the other side. The wealth of the country will accumulate faster in the hands of a few billionaires. The masses will be pauperized, but will remain human beings and will at last take back from the billionaires that of which they have been robbed. Then the people will carry on industry on a co-operative scale with a just reward to every producer and worker. The drones will get none, and the time for bankers, millionaires, politicians and all other robbers and idlers will be hard—indeed very hard, because they can't find any people to rob. Then *Puck* will have to remodel its illustration. Labor will not be sold as it is to-day, nor will the laboring man be forced to sell himself. We will produce in co-operation and use our products to our own individual taste, and if bankers, railroad kings and other loafers don't want to work and live from the value which they create by their own labor, they will be left to the mercy of some good-natured people or starve to death.

It will take some time before the workingmen will be ripe for such a high standard of civilization, but at least we are sure of it. It will come, it must come!

G. LUEBKERT.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—Bro. J. Bedford has resigned as Cor. Sec. of Toronto Union, No. 27, and Bro. John Hanrahan takes his place.

—Carpenters in Maysville, Ky., are following the example of their Covington brothers, and are moving forward to organize a Union under the Brotherhood.

—The House Mechanics Council, composed of the Unions in the house building trades, was organized in New Orleans, on Feb. 16. Bro. J. L. Brown, of Union No. 16, was elected Financial Secretary of it.

—Philadelphia Union No. 8 has unanimously asserted its loyalty to the Brotherhood and to its laws, and has established the best relations of fraternity among its members.

—Our Brotherhood is under deep obligations of gratitude to Bros. Gorg and Wind of St. Louis, Mo., for the loan of money they gave the Brotherhood in 1881, to aid it in its infancy.

—An outfit of carpenter's tools was presented to Hartford Union No. 43, as a prize to be drawn for at their ball on Jan. 15. The donor was Mr. Thrall, the hardware dealer of Central Row, Hartford, Conn.

Financial Secretaries and Treasurers of local unions should not delay in having the assessments for death benefits sent on at once when called for by the General Secretary. Their is no excuse for delay, only negligence. The law must be obeyed.

—By authority of the constitution, and under orders of the Executive Board, Philadelphia Union, No. 8, has elected the following officers of the Brotherhood: GENERAL TREASURER, John Gillepsie; TRUSTEES, John D. Allen, W. F. Eberhardt and Richard J. Ross. These officers are to serve until their successors are duly elected by orders of the next convention.

SWITZERLAND.—Last Summer the carpenters of Zurich demanded 10 hours as a day's work, instead of working eleven and twelve. By written agreement 80 employers conceded the demand, and now, through the instrumentality of a few bosses, a movement is on foot to return to the old system of long hours.—The National Printers' Union, by popular vote of its members, has adopted a general out-of-work benefit of 10½ francs per week.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD.

General Secretary—P. J. McGuire, 184 William street, New York.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

General President—J. P. McGinley, 363 Sedgwick street, Chicago, Ill.

1st Vice President—Thos. Blair, 510 Ogden Ave. Chicago, Ill.

2d Vice President—Gus Brethauer, 16 Grant street, Cincinnati, O.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

3d Vice President—John Clasby, Boston, Mass.

4th Vice President—R. Stevens, Oakland, Cal.

5th Vice President—Thos. W. Scott, Hamilton, Canada.

6th Vice President—Chas. Armstrong, Toronto, Canada.

7th Vice President—James Orrick, Philadelphia, Pa.

8th Vice President—Thos. Jones, Chicago, Ill.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members, and particularly for the benefit of our travelling brothers.)

ALAMEDA, Cal.—John J. Boyle.

ALLEGHANY CITY, Pa.—Thos. Cummings, 13 Lombard St.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Wendel Hans, 216 Morton St.

BALTIMORE, Md.—I. B. Aylsworth, 684 Pennsylvania Ave.

BOSTON, Mass.—Geo. A. Cahill, 21 Union Avenue, Jamaica Plains.

BENECIA, CAL.—J. H. Ostello.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—A. Turnbull, 63 Lawrence St.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—M. J. Dillon, 935 Ferry St.

CHARLESTON, S. C.—H. W. Burgess, 49 Corning street.

CHICAGO, Ill.—(12 branches.) L. E. Pake, General Post Office.

CINCINNATI, O.—C. Rumpler, 210 Livingston St.

CLEVELAND, O.—D. F. Sleeper, 41 William St., 7th Ward.

COVINGTON, KY.—N. G. Oliver, 16 West 11th St.

DENVER, Col.—J. D. Bailey, 275 Antelope St.

DETROIT, Mich.—C. F. Schmidt, 252 Trumbull St.

FALL RIVER, Mass.—P. Doyle, 42 Mason St.

GUELPH, Canada.—David Adam.

GERMANTOWN, Pa.—(Branch I, Union No. 8.) J. F. Kelly, 4500 Miller St.

HARTFORD, Conn.—D. Geddie, 425 Main St.

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia.—John Saxton, 76 Birmingham St.

HAMILTON, Canada.—Jas. Amess, 125 King St., E.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Jas. K. Whiteside, 167 Mass. Avenue.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—J. C. Egly, 1004 Julia Ave.

KENSINGTON, Ill.—C. Gibson, Box 130.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Thos. A. Murray, 234 3rd St.

MIDDLETOWN, O.—P. S. Williamson.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—G. G. Suellhohn, 741 Booth St.

MORRIS, Minn.—P. A. McCarthy, Box 89.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—H. W. Rogers, Cherokee Hall, North 2nd St., E. Nashville.

NEWARK, N. J.—D. Murphy, 20 Morton St.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Room 23, Insurance Building, Chapel St.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—A. McIsaacs, 2070 2nd Ave.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—J. L. Brown, 376 South Basin Street.

OAKLAND, Cal.—C. E. Nichols, 616 14th St.

PATERSON, N. J.—Labor Standard Office.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Jas. McKimm.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—D. Crawford, 265 Webster Ave.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—O. L. Paine, 39 Fifield Ave.

PORTLAND, Oregon.—E. T. Carr, 129 Alder St.

RUSHVILLE, Ind.—J. C. Gregg, Box 553.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—E. H. Squire, 76 Pearl St.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—J. D. Campbell, 134 Hayes Street.

SAN RAFAEL, Cal.—R. C. Sands, Box 699.

ST. CATHERINES, Canada.—Ed. Nicholson, Box 570.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—P. B. Blattner, 2022 S. Broadway.

SEATTLE, Wash. Ter.—Robert Brown.

TOLEDO, O.—M. J. Thompson, 72 Hewey St.

TORONTO, Canada.—Jos. Bedford, 58 Rose Ave.

TRENTON, N. J.—Jos. H. Appleton, 50 Lamberton St.

TROY, N. Y.—A. J. Ryan, 108 15th St.

UTICA, N. Y.—Jos. Joyce, Utica Daily Press.

VICTORIA, British Columbia.—Joshua Holland.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—G. W. Heisly, 1227 D St., S.W.

WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

BLACK LIST.

ROBERT WARD has been expelled from Union No. 43, Hartford, Conn., for misappropriating the funds of said union. He is about 5 feet 8 inches high, stoutly built, red complexion, sandy hair, with light moustache, prominent front teeth with peculiar lisp in his speech.

Satisfied With The Endowment.

We are very much encouraged with the endowment feature of the Brotherhood and see no reason why all other locals should not say the same. We have been laying aside the required amount each month, have now paid the eleventh assessment and still have enough laid aside to pay seven more assessments. [illegible] year, and if this does not [illegible] per capita per month is enough [illegible] what further proof do [illegible] It is not the small amount that [illegible] back with their assessments, [illegible] neglect to lay it aside according [illegible]

BALTIMORE, Md.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Cincinnati, O.

We have had a repetition of last year's flood, the water on February 8, was 62 feet 9 inches and rose even higher. Work started in pretty brisk, but the floods knocked everything out of time awhile. It will make the building season more profitable, however, when it starts. Taade is improving rapidly. There will be an enormous amount of work this season, and still some of the large bosses have cut their men in wages, but mostly in scab shops and in the mills. Whenever a union men is told he will be cut, he politely takes a walk and hunts another job. We will have a series of open meetings to see if we cannot recruit ourselves a little, and mostly to let the bosses know that Carpenters' Union No. 2 is still in existence. The first one we held on February 10, and it was very successful. We have opened subscription lists for our men who have been flooded.

Cleveland, O.

Trade still continues to be very dull; there is a vast army of carpenters unemployed in this city, and they are working for whatever they can get. There is quite a number of our union men out of employment this Winter, but those who are employed are paid $2.50 to $2.50 for nine hours per day. This place is overrun with carpenters or at least men who call themselves carpenters and they are offering themselves to the bosses at all prices. I scarcely know what the prospects are for the building trade this coming Spring, it is rather too early to calculate much about it, still some think it will be pretty brisk, whilst others hold opposite views. My individual opinion is that wages will not be very high the coming Summer on account of the great number of idle carpenters in this city, still I may be disappointed. I do believe that wages will be about $2.25 and $2.50 the coming Summer.

Some of our unions seem to be pulling wrong—rather too much of the rebellious principle about them. I would like to see that all done away with. Our law, in some respects, is very crude, but I hope at our next convention to see that all remedied. If we cannot work hand in hand we had better weed out some disturbers. A few unions working harmoniously are far better than many in discord. Some brothers seem to think the whole organization is expressly for their benefit, and unless they can control the whole affair, they will not do their duty. Our creed is, obey the law as long as it is a law. If the law is bad, make a better one, but never disobey it.

I have come to the conclusion that we cannot better our condition until we can do it politically. We must have laws preventing persons and corporations from holding such large tracts of land, and aliens should not hold land without declaring their intentions and settling on said land. No more land to be given away, except a homestead to the actual settler. Government should aid the poor to become settlers.

Shorter hour can never be had until the laboring classes themselves demand it, and then it will be granted without any comparative trouble. Shorter hours would relieve the labor market to a great extent.

Victoria, British Columbia.

There are a great many carpenters coming in here at present from the East and also from the North West Territory. Trade is very dull and they can't get anything to do for the simple reason that Victoria is already overstocked with emigrants. We intend striking for nine hours as a day's work on and after the first day of March next. Our union held their first supper and ball on January 11. The hall was beautifully decorated and the attendance of ladies and gentlemen was very large. Dancing commenced at 8 P. M., which was kept on until midnight when the company sat down to a sumptuous supper provided by the committee, the tables being loaded with the most acceptable viands. Full justice having been done to the good things! toasts were proposed and responded to, health's drank, and many humorous speeches made by the officers and members of the union. Dancing was then resumed and kept up until an early hour in the morning. The dresses of the ladies were very handsome and the hall presented a brilliant and animated scene. When the hour for breaking up came, all regretted to take their leave, and the Carpenters' and Joiners' Ball of 1884, in Victoria, will be long remembered with pleasure by all who were present.

Baltimore, Md.

Union No. 29 has passed a resolution to raise its initiation to $4, and dues to 50 cents per month to go into effect May 1, so the boys will now want to get in before that. We expect to have at least 50 new members by May 1. Trade is very dull; a great many out of work, much of which is caused by the unusually bad weather we have had since the first of the year. Our Federation of Trades is doing a good work. We had a demonstration at Annapolis, February 5, to urge upon the joint Senate and House Committee on Labor a favorable report on the labor bills now pending in the General Assembly of this State. We took down an immense delegation of fully 1,000 men from this city, and they deported themselves in a manner that reflected credit on the class they represented. What the fate of the bills will be I know not, but I certainly think that any Senator or Representative who looked on that body of men, will think twice before he puts himself on record as voting in direct opposition to their wishes and expectations.

Scranton, Pa.

Since the city was in its infancy there never was a year that has seen more buildings completed than the one just closed, and the prospects are about as good for next Spring. There is to be a Union depot built that will cost about $50,000, and also the Moses Taylor Hospital that will cost just about as much, and an enormous number of residences, tenement houses, blast furnaces, etc., etc. There is no union whatever in the city and it [illegible]

Boston, Mass.

We had a rousing public meeting on Feb. 4th. Long before the time of opening was announced the ante-rooms were filled, and when the meeting was called to order, the hall was literally packed., President W. J. Shields in a very eloquent address, set forth the purpose of the meeting, and in conclusion introduced the first speaker of the evening, Albert A. Carlton, of Lynn, who spoke for upwards of an hour. He confined himself particularly to the purpose of the meeting and laid particular stress upon the necessity of trades unions. Brother Cady was the second speaker, who, in his usual spicy and hearty remarks, brought out long and loud applause. Brother J. Clasby was the last speaker, who in very-well chosen language explained what our union has done and what it is doing and what it will do, and made an earnest appeal to all non-union men to come and join us, as it was to their own interest as well as to that of the Brotherhood at large. Before adjourning the President announced that our union would hold a public meeting on the first Monday of each month. This meeting was the largest and most successful we ever had.

We collected dues for the two meetings amounting to $67, and a great deal of that was from members we had given up for lost. We expect to add a couple hundred new members to our rolls before May. Pres. W. J. Shields, Bro. Clasby and Mr. Mr. Wilkins, a printer, were delegated as a committee from the Central Trades Union to go before the several trades unions and appeal for aid for the Mule Spinners of Fall River, and they are meeting with good success. Carpenters' Union No. 33 assessed its members 10 cents per week, and they responded very well. So taking all together we are pretty confident of victory for the organized mule spinners. THE CARPENTER has improved wonderfully the past three or four months.

Toledo, Ohio.

Business is almost at a standstill and we have been cut off from the East side for some time, as the draw of the temporary bridge was taken out to save it from the flood. The railroads in lower town stripped their bridges of track and ties so as not to lose them. There is some talk of organizing a union in Chattanooga, Tenn., through one of our travelling members who is there.

Bros. Farnsworth and A. J. O'Neal have been expelled from this union on account of being in arrears six months. The prospects for spring are splendid. Wages $2.00 to $2.25 per day. In about a month from now we will commence the new State Insane Asylum in Toledo. Kramer and Mills have the contract.

St. Louis, Mo.

On February 10, a mass meeting of 500 to 600 carpenters was held here in the Central Turner Hall, under the auspices of Carpenters Union No. 5. The object was to take into consideration the consideration of the trade and take measures for a thorough organization. A. W. Oberbeck, President of Union No. 5, acted as Chairman, James Murphy as Secretary. Max Stoehr, Geo. Winter and others addressed the meeting. Lists were opened for new members, and a large number of signatures were secured. Branches of Union No. 5 will be organized in various quarters of the city, and another mass meeting will soon be held. Everything indicates a great awakening of our trade in St. Louis, and indeed it is much needed. It is reported that men are working for $1.50 a day at carpenter work on the Exposition Building, and are not allowed to speak to each other.

Omaha, Neb.

I am happy to inform you I am making quite an impression among the carpenters of this city on the question of organization, and it is a favorable one. I can safely say that I will be able to report a carpenters' union in this city by March 15th, at the latest, if not I will return my commission as oganizer. I wish to offer a correction to the report of the Bricklayers' Convention, as published in THE CARPENTER. The report reads: "The matter of making eight hours a day's work was referred to the local unions, their votes to be sent in by August." This is a mistake. I wish it to be understood that the Bricklayers' International Convention was pronounced as favoring the eight-hour law, and our representative to the Congress of the Federation of Trades and Labor Unions, which meets in Chicago next October, was instructed to advocate the adoption of that measure by the Congress. Upon my motion the following resolution was adopted by a large majority in the Convention, with the mutual understanding that no positive or decided action should be taken in the matter until after the Trades and Labor Congress meets in Chicago, it being understood that they would take some action on the question, and in the event of their adopting the measure, it would then become more general. But if nothing is done by that body, then the resolution as adopted by the Bricklayers' Convention, will be enforced, if possible, by the bricklayers of the country. I introduced the resolution mainly to have the convention go on record as favoring and supporting the system. Now for the resolution:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this, the eighteenth annual convention, that we endorse the eight-hour law, and that we call on all subordinate unions to adopt such a measure."

Take away the mutual agreement of the Convention and the resolution becomes mandatory on subordinate unions. The resolutions establishing a strike fund and the appointing of five Vice-Presidents were also lost.

San Francisco, Cal.

Our union will celebrate the inauguration of the nine-hour movement by holding their third annual picnic on May 1st, in Shell Mound Park, Berkley, Alameda Co. We have placed $63.10 in the hands of the Treasurer of the organizing fund to organize the State. That is our share of the fund to be raised by all the carpenters' unions on the coast. Work is very dull in San Francisco at the [illegible]

New Haven, Conn.

Work is pretty dull here and in West Haven, owing to bad weather. Good prospects for Spring, however. The carpenters here have a sort of a union which exerts very little influence for want of aggressiveness.

Toronto, Canada.

The building trade is dull in Toronto, some non-union men are working for 12½ cents an hour. I am informed some union men are as low as 16c. but good union men generally range from 18c. to 22c½. Our union has a committee for the purpose, if possible, of closer intimacy of our Canadian unions, viz: Hamilton, Guelph, St. Catherines and Toronto. It is suggested that 12 or more of each local union meet at Hamilton, it being most central, and there we can have afriendly chat on topics of interest to the B., and the craft generally.

Chicago, Ill.

Business dull, but some little signs of improvement are making themselves apparent. We had an immense mass-meeting in Seamen's Hall, Feb. 23, to take some action for the coming Spring, but nothing definite was decided in that respect.

Branch Secretaries of Union No. 21 should send us some trade news every month, and then we could make a better showing of reports from Chicago.—EDITOR.

Charleston, S. C.

Wages average from $1.50 to $2.00 per day. Union No. 52 is progressing very nicely; not a meeting has passed that we have not had applications for membership. Still there stands a great many outside that have not come in, but we hope by-and-by we will have every carpenter in the city of Charleston in our union. The dullness of Winter makes things gloomy looking in the trade, but we will have a very busy Spring. The ten-hour system still rules in this city, and the average cost of living here is from $6 to $7 per week to a family and you can scarcely live at that. We can only hope the time is not very distant when we can get decent wages, and that is all we ask for.

Benicia, Cal.

Our union is progressing finely, keeps increasing and meets every Saturday night. Business has been quiet for some two weeks, caused by heavy rains, which will give us good prospects for Spring. Wages remain the same. The principal contractor here and owner of a planing mill objects very much to our co-operative enterprise, and he is also extremely down on the union. He defies the union to bring him down to the nine-hour system. Poor fellow, if he will not learn his true condition in nine hours, he will in nine weeks sure. All those who are stock-owners in the co-operative job are a committee of one to look out jobs, whereby they have been successful.

Encouragement from Buffalo.

I am a deal more than pleased with THE CARPENTER, as I am sure it gives some splendid news from all over the country in connection with carpenter work and the building trade in general. So that I take it as a great honor to become a subscriber to your monthly journal. I really don't know how you can have such a splendid journal for the money; as the price is so very low I am sure almost every carpenter ought to be a subscriber to such a good paper.

The building trade in Buffalo is dull at present, but there are bright hopes for the coming season, as from all reports the architects have plenty of orders on hand, so that everything indicates a busy Summer. I hope that the Brotherhood will double its members before this year is over, as I wish it every success and prosperity. I am satisfied that if we had only one half the carpenters in this town as union men, we would then be able to stand up for a better pay. I hope the men here that call themselves carpenters will see their great folly and rouse up manfully and demand a better state of wages, but there must be perfect organization amongst them to stand out for anything, or to do any good.

GEO. LEDYARD.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

LITERARY NOTICES.

We have received the SUDDEUTSCHE POST, published in Munchen, Germany. It is issued semi-weekly and is a faithful, steadfast and powerful representative of the trades and labor unions of Germany.

SCRIBNER'S LUMBER AND LOG BOOK, advertised in our columns, can be sent to your residence post-paid for 35 cents. Apply to Geo. W. Fisher, Box 238, Rochester, N. Y., or ask your newsdealer for it. This is the revised edition and is a standard work, the best in the market. Nearly a million copies have been sold.

TO-DAY, published at 13 & 14 Paternoster Row, E. C., England. This magazine is the most powerful radical labor monthly ever published, and has among its contributers such names as Henry George, William Morris. M. W. Hyndman, and Eleanor Marx.

CABINET MAKER AND UPHOLSTERY, 294 Broadway, New York. Price one dollar per year, published by F. A. Hodgson. This finely illustrated and splendidly edited journal is deserving of the fullest support. The reputation of Mr. Hodgson as publisher of the BUILDER AND WOOD WORKER is sufficient guarantee of its worth.

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THE LABOR QUESTION.

THE SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRY.

LECTURE XIII.

In our last, we said that we should, perhaps, find that the solution of the labor problem depends much upon the way in which the centres of production, exchange and distribution are organized. We have now to examine what should be the form of such organization.

If there are difficulties in our path, and doubtless we shall find many, I hope we shall attempt to discover, in an intelligent way, the nature and cause of such difficulties. We should therefore ask ourselves whence these difficulties arise.

1. Are they inherent within ourselves?
2. Are they difficulties of our own creating?
3. Are they difficulties which are *placed* in our path, from ignorance or with malicious intent, by persons whose personal interests are opposed to a better state of society?

If it is the latter, it will be our duty to enlighten them, and to show that they have nothing to lose but much to gain by the change, and to show that our desire is to impoverish none, but to make the rich richer as well as the poor. We must demonstrate to them the correctness of our third basic axiom, *i. e.*, the productive capacity of society is superior to the consumptive capacity of society. In a word, we must correct their ideas.

If either of the two former, we must correct ourselves.

A distinct knowledge of the cause of a difficulty will generally suggest some easy way to overcome the difficulty. What opposition, alike from the rich and the poor, should we not have to overcome, for instance, in putting into practice something like the following method:

Let us suppose, for a moment, that one of us—myself, for example—had one million of dollars, and that it was not my desire to become richer than I am, but to use my wealth for the good of others as well as my own good, and not like the robbers, Goulds, Vanderbilts, Astors and others, to pile up my one or two hundred millions, but to change the industrial methods of society and place it upon a basis of security against wars, famines and social and political revolutions, nothing would be more simple, and this is how I would set about it.

Of course it would be necessary to get people to see the ultimate results of the operation, for its momentary effect would be to frighten all the small storekeepers and merchants, who would, perhaps, repeat the o'er-quoted words, "Othello's occupation's gone." It would scare the workers, for whose benefit it was established; as the immediate effect might be to increase the amount of goods upon the market, and thus momentarily lower wages by competition, which would, however, soon re-adjust themselves as the system became general.

I would open up in one of the most frequented quarters of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, or any other large city, a large central store or *centre of exchange*, which I would divide into several departments—as for instance—

One for dry goods, linen, and bedding.
Another for iron, hardware, cutlery, &c.
One for hats and caps.
Another for furniture.
One for boots and shoes.
Another for vegetables and fruits—fresh, canned, and preserved, &c.
Another for the products of the dairy—eggs, cheese, milk, butter, &c.
Another for wines.
Another for meats, fish, and game.
Another for bread, cakes, pies, pastry.
Another for books, pamphlets, newspapers, &c.
Another for notions, underwear, &c.

Then a kind of general depot for lumber, lime, hair, plaster, stone, brick, and general building materials; coal, wood, charcoal, &c.

These departments should, from the first, and always, be furnished with produce of the very best quality, purchased at wholesale for cash, and sold at retail for cash—*never on credit*. No! under no pretense whatever! It should be with a very slightaugmentation in price, which should only be provisionally and until we could sell at *cost* those commodities which we should produce ourselves as soon as we could begin to manufacture.

So soon as we could find sale for sufficient of the products of any of the industries we have mentioned, to employ a few producers we should establish a workshop, or a *centre* of production. For instance, if we sold sufficient bread and pastry to employ four or five bakers, we should immediately establish a bakery.

If we sold enough shoes to keep twenty shoemakers at work, or even only half that number, we should establish a shoe shop.

If enough hats to employ five hatters, we should open a hat shop.

If enough books, journals, pamphlets, we should establish a printing office.

If we disposed of enough garments to require half a dozen tailors, we should establish a tailor-shop, and so on to the end of the chapter.

We should then call upon the Trades Unions to furnish us with the most skilled and capable men in their special industries to direct these centres of production; the Trades Unions would then take their destined place in the field of industry, which is, to supervise, control, improve, ennoble and teach the knowledge and mysteries of their special art to their fellow craftsmen.

As we sold wine, vegetables, dairy produce, fruits, grains, &c., &c., we should establish farms.

As the sale of bricks, lime, stone, &c., increased, we should establish kilns and brick yards and open quarries. When the demand for coal and iron was sufficiently great, we should open up mines and establish furnaces.

In fact, we should establish as many centres of *production* as would be necessary to supply our *centres of exchange*, *i. e.*, consumption, taking *always* the precaution to open up a market *before* throwing our produce upon it.

It is unnecessary to enter more into detail, or to recapitulate; suffice it to say that so soon as the workshops or centres of production, of hatters, printers, bakers, tailors, etc., should have been multiplied and become sufficiently important to make use of a sufficient amount of paper, flour, cloth, etc., to furnish labor for papermakers, millers, weavers and other manufacturers, mills and manufacturies would be established for that purpose, and the field of operations would be gradually extended even to the establishment of lines of trading-vessels and ship-building, in order to exchange with foreign nations, until it had embraced the whole round of the numerous industries through which human activity expresses itself, and without which that which we know by the name of society could not possibly exist.

Now we do see that such an organization is not of the most simple nature, and can we doubt that out of every twenty merchants in any large city we would find at least one who would be perfectly capable of mastering its details and directing it.

But could we assert with as much confidence that one out of every twenty workers could undertake its direction? No! certainly we could not, and why? From want of training, which develops the necessary capacity, and therefore be it remembered that *without education as a foundation, no intelligent industrial superstructure is possible.*

The duty, the function, the mission of Trades Unions is to secure this education to every one of its adult members and to provide for their children such facilities as will secure it to them also; and we may rest assured that the utility of these institutions will be measured by the success with which they fulfil this mission.

Let us now ask ourselves, what would be the results of an organization of industries such as we have sketched?

These *centres of production*, whose interests would be intimately allied to, and completely inseparable from, the *centres of exchange* and consumption, would not be, as they are to-day, the property of an individual or proprietor, but they would be in the possession of all and accessible to every one as *instruments of labor*.

By this means all who desire to labor can do so; no man would then be idle for want of employment; we should then be able to discover who were the loafers, and whosoever refused to render an equivalent for that which he consumed would be regarded as a parasite, and, consequently, an enemy to society, and treated accordingly. The words of Paul the apostle should be applied: "He who would not labor neither should he eat."

As no man would be working for the profits of another, there would be neither capitalist nor master—called Boss; every man who worked would have for himself the fruits of his labor. The products being sold at cost, would be within the reach of all who worked or rendered any service to society, and we should accomplish our purpose, which is to give to labor all that labor creates, for it will be remembered that in our first lecture we advanced two axioms, which we held to be correct—

1. Labor creates all wealth.
2. All wealth belongs to those who create it.

Whenever a product was sold for a higher price than it really cost to produce, because it might happen to be in greater demand than the possibility of supplying it, this surplus would arise from one of two things—either from a natural monopoly, such as genius, talent, capacity of writer, artist, inventor, etc.; in which case the price would be regulated by the demand, and for the benefit of the individual up to a certain point; but if this excess in price should, on the contrary, as it more frequently does, proceed from a natural quality or value attached to the object, which has cost no human effort or labor, then the surplus would go to society, to be employed in defraying the expenses of administration—government—and insurance.

Whenever a responsible worker or group of workers required raw materials in order to work them into finished articles, ready for consumption, they would be debited according to necessity; when their labor was completed and the articles put in their respective departments to be disposed of, they would be credited.

Every month or week, or as often as necessary, every account would be balanced and paid, and this bookkeeping, this balancing of accounts, this payment of money, this transfer of debt, this *clearing* would give rise to and constitute this Bank of Exchange, a bank which would be the function for all the transactions between the centres of production and the centres of consumption.

In such a bank the workers would not be robbed of their savings by fraudulent cashiers, treasurers, presidents, directors, receivers, and the whole tribe of the present thieving commercial classes.

Such an organization of industry would give mutual and gratuitous credit; it would combine the centres of production, exchange and consumption in a complete solidarity; it would reconcile and conciliate every interest in all the branches of production. It would furnish the annual budget by means of its bank, and thus perform the function of the treasury department,

It would transform the government into a pure and simple administration of the general and collective interests. It would completely change the present human relations in the domain of industry—every individual would become an industrial functionary. There would no longer be government, for none would be governed; no victims in poverty nor a privileged few rotting in luxury; no spoilators nor spoilated; equality of conditions would then truly exist and solidarity be established among all men for ever.

Land, workshops, machinery, tools, instruments of labor of all descriptions, functions, services and employments of all kinds would be freely placed within the reach of all, and nothing but the capacity to perform them would be required.

The products, with very few exceptions, would be delivered at cost to the consumer.

The legitimate property of man would be the remuneration of his physical, mental or moral aptitudes, efforts and powers, which none would envy him, but his wealth would never be the result of profit made by monopolizing the elements of nature or living from the labor of others.

As all men would be able to produce more than they would consume, all would be rich—except, perhaps, a very few, who might be found to voluntarily embrace poverty for the sake of intellectual or moral pursuits.

When all this that I have sketched should be in working order, and I could not only explain, but demonstrate and show the way to proceed and the results of my enterprise to the workers, which would be in a very short time, I would call them together and would say to them—

This immense agglomeration of divers industries, working the one within the other, each mutually dependent upon each other, equal in interests and in responsibilities, and therefore allied in solidarity, belongs to the people. You see, by what has been accomplished up to the present time, how much can be accomplished in the future; take it, it is yours; let justice and solidarity be the guides of your actions; secure the continuity of the principle and its methods by an enlightened, integral, industrial, scientific and meral education to every one of your children, and the loafer and the parasite, poverty and crime, want and wickedness, will be banished from the face of this fair earth forever. Take it, it is yours; continue it and hand it down to the future, augmented and improved, by electing men of your own choice for some little time to come, as directors; after which, by men appointed or chosen by lot, who have given proof of capacity; change them every year, in order that every one may fulfil his function when his turn and time arrive. From time to time control their operations yourselves, for upon this *your* enterprise depends, the complete and definite enfranchisement of the workers and of the world.

Now, that which I or any other one among us could do as a simple individual, an association or a government could do if it would. But I may be ironically reminded that that I have not a million dollars at my disposal, and that the workers are all individually in the same financial condition. It is for that reason that I have proposed to act in the manner indicated in previous Lectures, XI. and XII. It is for that reason that I would point to the fact that one million of men with one dollar each, or two million of men with fifty cents each, or two hundred thousand men with five dollars each, could make up the sum without being ruined by it; and this number of men could accomplish it as well as I could.

I would further point to the fact that whenever an industrial republic shall be established in the place of the mere political republic which exists to-day, that the administrative and executive of such a republic would freely vote such a sum by passing a bill entitled, "A bill to provide for the conducting of a series of industrial experiments for the benefit of the nation." And, in conclusion, I would remark that our object should be to secure a free man *in an* industrial *state* by establishing a social republic, if we desire to see the world forever relieved from monarchies, autocracies, aristocracies, theocracies, plutocracies, or any other form of *cruties* or power.

DRURY.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Technical or physical training, for useful purposes, has long been attended to in many cities on the continent of Europe. After the great French Exhibition, the committees of employers and also of workingmen, sent to Paris from Great Britain to report upon the subject, unanimously asserted that if England meant to retain its manufacturing supremacy, it would be absolutely necessary to commence industrial or technical education. The expediency of so doing in this country has long been agitated, and at length the School Board of Boston has decided to introduce manual training in some of the public schools of that city.

The attempt, however, is yet limited to schools of the grammar grade, and certain others in a particular section of the city. In those schools, tools and apparatus such as are used by carpenters have been provided, instructors appointed, and rooms set apart for the purpose. The cost of the experiment is said not to be very great; $2,500 is expected to cover it. Ten classes, containing twenty pupils each, have been formed, and one-tenth of their school time is to be devoted to manual labor. When it is remembered that the working of our present industrial system increases production by the division and sub-division of the duties of workers, in consequence of which the number of skilled mechanics is steadily decreasing, it seems that the introduction of technical education in our public schools is the only step that will preserve and extend the future efficiency of our industries. The matter is worthy of the general attention of our people in all parts of the Republic.

PARIS.—Over 200,000 workmen of all trades in this city are unemployed, and the number is constantly increasing. The Central Labor Union of Paris warns the workingmen of Europe to keep away from Paris for the present. Carpenters' wages are nearly 8 francs per day (that is $1.60.

COPENHAGEN.—The strike of the carpenters of this city against a reduction in pay has ended in the success of the men.

Der Carpenter.

New York, März 1884.

Ein Wort über Organisation.

In einem Artikel über Organisation betont der „Detroit Spectator", daß nur die Gewerkschaften der wahre Schutz der Arbeiter sind. Er resumirt kurz wie folgt: Organisation der Arbeiter meint Schutz gegen lange Arbeitszeit und niedrige Löhne; es meint Schutz gegen den Unverstand der Massen. Einzeln sind wir ohnmächtig, vereint aber bilden wir eine Macht. Die Mittel eines Einzelnen sind gar bald erschöpft, aber nur wenige Cents von Allen vermögen uns über alle Schwierigkeiten hinwegzuhelfen. Jeder Arbeiter sollte unbedingt seiner Gewerkschaft angehören; denn blickt um Euch! Welches sind die intelligentesten Arbeiter? Die organisirten Arbeiter! Welches siud die bestbezahlten Arbeiter? Die organisirten Arbeiter! Welche Arbeiter haben die kürzeste Arbeitszeit und die beste Behandlung? Die organisirten Arbeiter! Die organisirten Arbeiter haben ihre Versammlungen, in denen sie durch gegenseitigen Austausch ihrer Ansichten, Meinungen und Erfahrungen sich selbst bilden, in denen sie sich über die Lage des Arbeitsmarktes unterrichten und dadurch in den Stand gesetzt werden, zur richtigen Zeit höhere Löhne zu verlangen. In den Gewerkschaften wird der Manneswerth der Arbeiter geweckt und dessen Gesichtskreis erweitert, so daß er seine Macht erkennen und benutzen lernt.

Mitarbeiter! Die Pflicht gegen Euch selbst und gegen Eure Familie gebietet Euch, Eurer Gewerkschaft beizutreten. Organisirt Euch zum Widerstand gegen Unterdrückung, organisirt Euch zum Schutze Eurer Rechte! — Leser dieser Zeilen, gehörst du deiner Gewerkschaft an? Wenn nicht, trete ohne Verzug bei.

Arbeiter, vergeßt es niemals!

Die Arbeiter sollten niemals vergessen, daß sie ohne Gewerkschaften nur Hungerlöhne erhalten würden; sie sollten niemals vergessen, daß, wenn ihre Löhne noch gut, oder doch anständig sind, sie das nur den Gewerkschaften zu verdanken haben. Es ist daher auch Pflicht jedes Arbeiters, seine Gewerkschaft zu unterstützen, nicht allein durch Zahlung seiner Beiträge, sondern auch dadurch, daß er die Versammlungen regelmäßig besucht und sich an den Verhandlungen und Abstimmungen betheiligt. Dies ist der einzige Weg, um zu verhüten, daß faule Elemente in den Gewerkschaften die Oberhand gewinnen, oder daß irgend welche Maßregeln beschlossen werden, die sich als nachtheilig und schädlich für die Gesammtheit erweisen.

Die Pflicht der Arbeiter.

Die höchste Pflicht des Arbeiters gegen sich selbst und gegen seine Mitarbeiter ist es, unter allen Umständen fest bei seiner Gewerkschaft zu stehen, dieselbe zu fördern, wo immer ihm Gelegenheit gegeben, und alle Mißbräuche innerhalb derselben zu bekämpfen; aber nie sollten wir aus persönlichen oder selbstsüchtigen Gründen der Gewerkschaft den Rücken kehren, denn wir schaden dadurch am meisten uns selbst. Alle Stänker und Krakehler sollten prompt unterdrückt werden, denn nichts ist in einer Gewerkschaft mehr nothwendig, als Einigkeit, namentlich zur Zeit von Strikes oder in der höchsten Blüthe des Gedeihens. So lange eine Gewerkschaft noch mit ihrem Ausbau beschäftigt ist und noch keine wichtigen Fragen vorliegen, sind Streitigkeiten innerhalb derselben gewöhnlich selten und unbedeutend, sobald aber eine Gewerkschaft vorgeht, um die Früchte ihrer mächtigen Arbeit zu ernten, treten unglücklicher Weise gewöhnlich auch die Streitsüchtigen und Stänker hervor, um durch allerhand Streitereien über unbedeutende Nebensachen das ganze Vorgehen zu hemmen und lahmzulegen. Mitarbeiter, vergeßt nie, daß der größte Feind der Arbeiter die Arbeiter selbst sind — das heißt, die außerhalb der Gewerkschaft Stehenden und die Stänker und Krakehler innerhalb derselben.

(Iron Molders' Journal.)

— Die Advokaten haben ihre „Bar-Associations" — ihre Gewerkschaften — und setzen hohe Raten fest für ihre Dienste; irgend ein Advokat, der einen Fall unter diesen Raten übernimmt, gilt für einen Pfuscher — einen Betrüger. Die Aerzte nennen Jeden, der billiger wie sie praktizirt, einen Quacksalber. Haben nicht die Arbeiter dasselbe Recht wie Advokaten und Aerzte, ihre Löhne festzustellen? Und ist nicht Jeder, der unter diesen Löhnen schafft, ein Scab — ein Verräther an seinen Mitarbeitern?

Und noch einmal: Weniger arbeiten.

Wenn man in den Gewerkschaften von der Nothwendigkeit spricht, den Werktag zu verkürzen, so hört man mitunter folgenden Einwand:

„Aber wozu das? Wir haben ja schon gegenwärtig nur einen achtstündigen Arbeitstag, wenn man die vielen arbeitslosen Tage, Wochen oder Monate im Jahre in Abzug bringt und die wirkliche Arbeitszeit über das Jahr gleich vertheilt denkt."

Ein solcher Einwand ist wohl geeignet, Einem die ganze Größe der Begriffsverwirrung zum Bewußtsein zu bringen, welche die kapitalistische Denkungsweise in den Köpfen der arbeitenden Massen zu erzeugen pflegt. Was von den englischen Lohnarbeitern unzweifelhaft richtig ist, daß sie sich zuerst wieder darauf besonnen haben, daß ihnen ein großer Theil ihrer freien Zeit, also ihres Lebens, ohne Entgelt geraubt wurde, und daß ihre Erlösung mit gesetzlicher Verkürzung des Werktages gegeben sei, das ist noch gar vielen amerikanischen Arbeitern nicht in die Schädeldecke eingedrungen. Es ist ihnen die Hauptsache noch niemals zu Ohren gekommen, daß sie nämlich eine Menge unbezahlter Arbeitszeit den Beschäftigern preisgeben, und daß sie eben dadurch sich Ketten schmieden, die planlose Produktion und die Handelskrisen hervorrufen und dann viele Tage lang gezwungen müßiggehen, ohne inzwischen Lohn und Brot vom Ausbeuter fordern zu können.

Gäbe es einen gesetzlichen und gewohnheitlichen achtstündigen Arbeitstag, so würde scheinbar nicht mehr Waare erzeugt werden im Durchschnitt als heute, falls dem Arbeiter nothgedrungen ein gut Theil seiner Arbeitszeit hindurch kein Werk geliefert wird. In der That aber verhält sich die Sache ganz anders. Derselbe Arbeiter, welche in Jahren der Handelsstockung (und in vielen Geschäften überhaupt jedes Jahr) nur 2400 Stunden schafft (nämlich in vielleicht 300 Arbeitstagen des Jahres durchschnittlich 8 Stunden), arbeitet in guten Geschäftsjahren Ueberzeit — statt 10 vielleicht 12, 14 oder mehr Stunden — hat aber nicht den mindesten Vortheil, hat nur Schaden davon. Er arbeitet ja schon — bei regelmäßiger andauernder zehnstündiger Arbeit zu viel, zuviel für die Waare, die er liefert, zuviel für den Markt, den er vollstopfen hilft, zuviel für seine verausgabte Arbeits- und Lebenskraft, zuviel für die Kapitalisten. Ja, schon achtstündiges Tagewerk, ausdauernd das ganze Jahr und Jahre lang fortgesetzt, ist zuviel für die gefertigte Waare, für den Absatzmarkt und für die Arbeitskraft, wenn sie naturgemäß lange dauern soll, sowie für den Ausbeuter.

Da man aber die Erwerbswelt nicht auf einmal umgestalten kann, so thut man wohl, sich mit regelmäßig achtstündiger Arbeitszeit zu begnügen und die fernere Verkürzung des Werktags stets im Auge zu behalten. Und welches müssen die Wirkungen davon sein? — Nun, daß der Lohn steigt, langsam aber sicher steigt, und zwar ohne daß die Kaufkraft des Lohnes um ebensoviel, oder überhaupt sinkt. Soviel lehren alle in England mit der Verkürzung des Werktags gemachten Erfahrungen. Seit 1850, als die 54stündige Arbeitswoche für die meisten Gewerbe in England Gesetz wurde, ist die Lohnhöhe dort nicht gesunken, sondern gestiegen, und die Kaufkraft des Lohnes ist dieselbe geblieben, ja, sie ist größer geworden. Aber auch die tägliche Erfahrung in allen modernen Großbetriebsländern lehrt, daß die Löhne in demselben Verhältniß höher sind, wie der Werktag kürzer ist, und um so niedriger, je schrankenloser der Werktag ist.

Als allgemeiner Erklärungsgrund hierfür sollte schon der ausreichen, daß, wer Herr über die Arbeitszeit des Menschen ist, auch die Macht hat, seinen Lohn herabzudrücken, und daß der Arbeiter, welcher seine Zeit nicht werth hält, auch tiefer sinkt und seinen Lohn mitzubestimmen unfähiger wird. Wenn also möglichst alle Arbeiter sich weigern ihre Zeit und Kraft zu vergeuden, so werden sie leichter höheren Lohn ertrotzen; es wird nicht mehr zu viel produzirt, und der Waarenmarkt wird nicht mehr über alle Absatzmöglichkeit hinaus verstopft werden. Es wird keine Krisen, gefolgt von fieberhafter Ueberarbeit, mehr geben. Die Waarenpreise werden weniger schwanken, die Zahl der Bankrotte wird abnehmen, die Löhne können allmählich gesteigert werden, was jetzt durch die Krisen verhindert wird. Die geforderten Lohnerhöhungen können bewilligt werden, weil sie immer nur einen so geringen Prozentsatz am Waarenpreise ausmachen, daß das Kapital sie verschmerzen kann, weil also, was die Arbeiter gewinnen, am Kapital, Profit verloren geht. Soweit ist es grossentheils schon in England gekommen, wo die Unternehmergewinne stark abgenommen haben.

Allein das Mittel ist wiederholter Anwendung fähig. Die achtstündigen Werktage könnten im Verlauf der Zeit gradweise noch weiter verkürzt werden, bis die Ausbeuter das Ausbeuten zu wenig gewinnreich fänden. Im Zukunftsstaate kann ohnehin nur ein kurzer Werktag bestehen, welcher gerade genügt, um die Gesellschaft mit allen Lebensbedürfnissen zu versorgen und einen mäßigen Ueberschuß für neue Unternehmungen und unvorhergesehene Fälle zu lassen.

Hierzu ist der verkürzte Werktag die beste Vorbereitung. (N. Y. Volksztg.)

— Die Fabrikanten in Fall River, Mass., haben die Arbeitslöhne vom 1. Februar an um 10 Prozent herabgesetzt.

— Die Atlantic Baumwollenfabrik in Lawrence, Mass., hat am 4. Februar eine 10prozentige Lohnreduktion eintreten lassen.

— „Wenn die Arbeiter warten, bis die Kapitalisten ihre Lage verbessern, dann können sie warten bis zum jüngsten Tag". So sagt Gouverneur McLane von Maryland, und der kann es wohl wissen.

— Die Bewegung auf dem Gebiete der Arbeiter-Gesetzgebung ist eine so lebhafte in allen Arbeiter-Organisationen dieses Landes, daß sich die Herren Politiker wohl diesmal herbeilassen werden, dem Verlangen der Arbeiter Zugeständnisse zu machen. Selbst Politiker und Governors ergreifen die Initiative darin, um mit der öffentlichen Meinung zu halten und die Stimmen der Arbeiter nicht zu verlieren.

— Strikes sind ein Zeichen von erwachtem Mannesmuth nnd Klassenbewußtsein. Eine Arbeiterklasse, die sich nie ihren Unterdrückern widersetzt — die keinen Strike wagt, ist in der Regel eine sehr ohnmächtige und hülflose Klasse. Jene Gewerke, in denen die intelligentesten und geschicktesten Arbeiter beschäftigt werden, haben die meisten Strikes zu verzeichnen, bis sie durch ihre mächtige Organisation die Periode der Strikes überwunden haben. Strikes sind ein Krieg der Lohnarbeiter, durch welche sie ihre Arbeitszeit zu verkürzen, ihre Lebensstellung zu erhalten und zu verbessern suchen.

— Der Gouverneur McLane von Maryland scheint eine große und rühmliche Ausnahme unter unseren öffentlichen Beamten zu sein. In seiner Botschaft hat er eine ganze Serie von Arbeitergesetzen angekündigt und in ganz ausgezeichneter Weise begründet. Er verlangt einen Normalarbeitstag von 8 Stunden, Beschränknng der Kinder- und Frauenarbeit in den Fabriken und Regelung der Mahlzeiten derselben, ein Haftpflichtgesetz, ein Statistik-Bureau u. s. w. Gegenüber der selbstverständlich eingetretenen Opposition der Fabrikanten erklärte der Gouverneur in einer Rede u. A.: „Nichts macht eines Mannes Urtheil zu einem blinderen, als die Sucht nach Gewinn, und wenn die Arbeiter warten, bis die Kapitalisten ihre Lage verbessern, dann könnten sie warten bis zum jüngsten Tage. Ich werde um kein Jota von der eingenommenen Stellung zurücktreten." — Bravo!

— Der schweizerische Typographenbund hat die Einführung der Konditionslosenkasse mit 438 gegen 279 Stimmen genehmigt und damit einen Schritt gethan, der ihm sich nur zum Vortheil gereichen kann. An die arbeitslosen Verbandsgenossen werden Francs 10.50 per Woche bezahlt.

— Der Verband der Zimmerer Deutschlands zählt in folgenden Städten Mitglieder: Berlin, Breslau, Braunschweig, Bremen, Brandenburg, Charlottenburg, Danzig, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt a O., Hamburg, Hannover, Halberstadt, Königsberg i. P. Kiel, Landsberg a. W., Magdeburg, Memel, Mannheim, Nürnberg, Neustadt b. M. Olvenstedt, Potsdam, Rostock, Spandau, Burg, Wolmirstedt, Wandsbeck, Ottersleben, Zwickau und Tilsit.

Aus Kopenhagen im November. Der dort im Monat Juli ausgebrochene Strik der Zimmerleute kann als beendet betrachten werden. (Derselbe war in Deutschland telegraphisch angezeigt.)

Aus Paris. Auch wir können nicht unterlassen, die deutschen Zimmerleute warnend darauf aufmerksam zu machen, daß gegenwärtig in Paris, der französischen Hauptstadt, über 200,000 Arbeiter aller Branchen (Gewerksbetriebe) arbeitslos, somit also existenzlos sind, uns scheint dieses noch größere Dimensionen annehmen zu wollen. Es dürfte also nicht die Furcht vor Nationalitätenhaß, sondern nur wegen gänzlicher Niederlage der Geschäfte uns entschieden vom einstweiligen Fernbleiben der französischen Metropole abhalten.

Aus Berlin. Die hier erscheinende „Zeitschrift der Zimmerkunst" schreibt: Wir ermahnen einen jeden Kameraden, seinen Schritt vor der Auswanderung nach Amerika genau zu prüfen, denn unsere Central-Bahnhöfe zeigen alltäglich ein trauriges Bild der heimkehrenden, trügerischen Vorspiegelungen zum Opfer gefallenen Auswanderer (darunter manchen tüchtigen Zimmermann, welcher in der neuen Welt sein Glückstopf suchte — unbekümmert um die Konkurrenz, welche er dadurch den dortigen Kameraden verursachte); die bleichen Wangen, abgerissene Kleidung und die Furchen der Sorgen verfehlen nicht, ihren Eindruck auf uns zu üben.

Arbeitslöhne in Frankreich.

Im Allgemeinen ist wahrzunehmen, daß die Löhne seit 1877 eine allmähliche Steigerung erfahren haben. Der gewöhnliche Durchschnittstagelohn eines in Kost befindlichen Arbeiters stieg in Paris von 1.70 auf 1.86 Fr., der eines nicht in Kost befindlichen Arbeiters in Paris von 4.78 (1877) auf 4.79 (1878) 4.81 (1879) und 5.15 Fr. (1880). In Paris erhielten bei Selbstbeköstigung die höchsten Durchschnittslöhne die Steinmetzen 8 Fr. täglich, die Zimmerleute 7.86 Fr. (oder 6 Mk. 28 Pf.) die Maurer 7.50 Fr., die Dachdecker 7.35 Fr., die Tischler, Decorationsmaler, Ofensetzer, Bildhauer 7 Fr., die Schlosser 6.50 Fr., die Ziegelbrenner 6 Fr. Die niedrigsten Durchschnittslöhne erzielten die Steinbrecher und Töpfer 4 Fr. Es ist hierbei zu beachten, daß die genannten Lohnsätze Durchschnittssätze für die einzelnen Berufe sind, und daß es Arbeiter giebt, die bedeutend über und bedeutend unter dem angeführten Satz verdient haben.

Durchschnittlich zahlt Frankreich wohl ziemlich den doppelten Lohn, Deutschland angemessen und trotzdem konkurrirt es mit Deutschland erfolgreich auf dem Weltmarkte.

Betrachten wir gegen die Löhne der Zimmerleute in Paris den Hungerlohn der Zimmerleute in Breslau, unserer zweitgrößten Stadt in der preußischen Monarchie. Kaum den dritten Theil verdienen unsere Kameraden da, im Vergleich zu den Pariser Zimmerern.

Diesen Winter geht das Geschäft, wie wir hier schon angeführt haben, sehr schlecht in Paris.

Abonnements-Einladung

auf die

Zeitschrift der Zimmerkunst

Kameraden in Amerika abonnirt auf unsere

Zeitschrift,

das Verbands-Organ der Zimmerleute. Der Zweck der Zeitschrift ist: praktisch-theoretische Ausbildung, sowie Verbesserung der socialen Lage der deutschen Zimmerleute. Der Preis für Amerika ist $ 1.— per Jahr. Bestellungen nehmen alle Post-Officen entgegegen.

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DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

WILLIAM HART, of Chicago Union No. 21, a member in good standing, died of Pneumonia, Jan. 23, 1884. Assessment No. 13.

HERMAN AUFDEMBRINKE, a member in good standing of Cincinnati Union No. 2, aged 27 years, died of Typhoid Fever, February 10, 1884. Assessment No. 14.

NOTICE.—An error occurred in last month's journal under this head; the numbers of the assessments should have been No. 11 and No. 12, and not No. 12 and No. 13. Financial Secretaries will bring the matter of Assessment No. 12 for the late Bro. Geo. M. D. Hedrick of Washington, D. C., and Assessment No. 13 and No. 14 as above before their unions. The amount of each assessment will be the same for each union as called for on Assessments Nos. 9, 10 and 11. Be prompt in sending on your assessments to the General Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Portland, Oregon.

Union No. 50 is progressing rapidly. We have good hopes of gaining the nine-hour system in May. A good many boss carpenters are in favor of it.

St. Catherines, Canada.

Trade is very, very slack, worse than it has been in some years. Most of our members are out of the city, many of them are at work on three boats for the Canada Pacific, at Port Colborne, 28 miles from here. Wages have kept at 20 cents per hour for eight hours work per day. Although no prospects yet, everyone seems to think it will be a good Spring and Summer. We are forming committees to meet and form a league of all labor societies in this city.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

Work dull, nearly 200 carpenters unemployed in this city; some good workmen are getting only $2.50 per day. Cost of living very high and weather very severe. Union No. 45 has given notice to the bosses that on and after May 1, 1884, nine hours shall constitute a full day's work. Trade is expected to improve in a few weeks. Brother John Howard is elected Rec. Secretary; John D. Workking, Fin. Secretary, and Robert Brown, Cor. Sec.

Covington, Ky.

The condition of trade is dull at present, the high water has stopped all business here, at least the greater portion of it. Wages are from $1.75 to $2.50 per day; nine hours per day; most of our union men have work. The cost of living is high, rent is high, wages low. There is a good prospect for Spring. We meet every Thursday night. Our officers are: Matthew Wagner, President; V. G. Oliver, Fin, Secretary; John Maas, Secretary.

New Orleans, La.

Bro. Edmond Bates, Branch 4, Chicago Union No. 21, has attended two of our meetings. We have not seen Bro. R. McKinley lately. Plenty of work in the market at present, but trade is dull, wages low, $2 to $3 per day. City full of mechanics waiting for the Centennial job, which will begin about the 15th of February. Cost of living high; city healthy.

Washington, D. C.

Weather very bad and work dull. Prospects for next season are not very bright; the architects say they have very little work on hand. This time last year they were as busy as they could be. Wages hold firm. Some bosses are discharging union men and hiring scabs, but we will remember every one of them and pay them back in their own coin before long.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52 is going right along; we get from three to four new members every meeting, although trade is very dull at present and has been so all Winter. There are more men out of employment in this city than has been the case for some years. We had an election of new officers, which resulted as follows: F. E. Raines, Pres.; R. S. Wilkerson, Vice-Pres.; S. Robinson, Treas.; J. F. Drayton, Fin. Sec.; J. C. Carter, Rec. Sec.; W. H. Burgess, Cor. Sec.; Trustees, F. A. Pugh, J. Nelson, R. G. Price; Warden, W. H. Wilson; Conductor, A. W. McNiell; Hall Keeper, P. Ashbey.

Nashville, Tenn.

We still exist, though we have been somewhat dormant for the last two months on account of the bad weather which has thrown a good many out of employment. But we are beginning to wake up and starting in with renewed energy. We had a public meeting last week which was well attended by the carpenters of the city. We will have a public meeting hereafter every month. Work is very dull at present. There is a prospect of a good deal of work this Spring. Our new officers are: J. Swanger, Pres.; O. V. Ramsey, Vice-Pres.; A. D. Shegoye, Rec. Sec.; R. B. Douglass, Fin. Sec.; H. W. Rogers, Cor. Sec.; M. A. Morrow, Treas.; W. A. Skiliton, Conductor; R. K. Horne, Warden.

Hamilton, Canada.

Trade has never been so dull for a number of years as it is at the present time, and the prospects for the Spring are poor. Only a few small jobs in view; about one hundred and fifty carpenters are idle, but the greater part of those are non-union men and all other trades are equally as dull. Two boss builders of this city discharged the carpenters working for them and supplied their places with lathers for shingling, because the lathers worked much cheaper. No action be taken against them, as the Lathers' Union of this city is broken up, but immediate action will be taken against the bosses who employed them. The operatives at the Ontario cotton mills of this city are expecting a cut in wages, but intend to organise a union to protect themselves.

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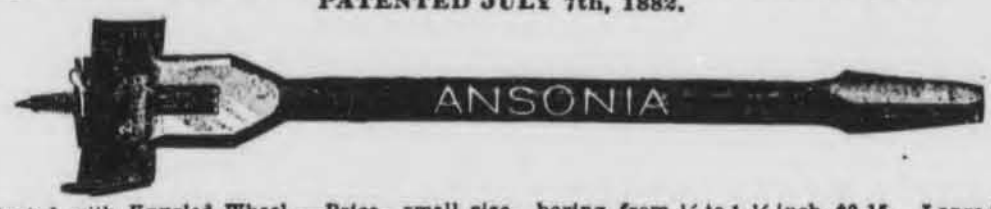

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, APRIL, 1884. NUMBER 4.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

Our General Secretary, P. J. McGuire, will speak in the following places on the dates fixed:

Boston—Monday, April 7.
Providence Tuesday, April 8.
Hartford—Wednesday, April 9.
New Haven—Thursday, April 10.

The Carpenters' Unions in those cities will arrange the meetings, and workingmen of all trades are invited to attend.

The Canadian trip of our General Secretary last month was eminently successful in arousing the lagging interest of our members, and in stirring up non-union men to a sense of their duty. He visited Guelph, Toronto and Hamilton, having large meetings in the two first cities. The halls were crowded and the most intense interest displayed.

A HUMILIATING SPECTACLE.

The most pitiable case of "poor mouth" that was ever presented to public gaze, is a recent petition of scab carpenters in St. Louis to the Exposition Directors of that city. They ask the Directors to proceed with the work on the Exposition building, and set forth the following beggarly reasons:

"We have now been idle all the present year; have families who are dependent upon us for support; we are sober, industrious and as good representatives of our trade as live in this city. Some of us are almost destitute of the common necessaries of life. In view of this we ask you as benevolent gentlemen to give the command and let the work be commenced at the earliest practicable time and save us from the pangs of hunger and cold.

We will accept *any reasonable wages* offered, and you will have men who will do their duty gratefully, thankfully, and will stand by you to the end. And you will save some hundreds of dollars by making the arrangement while the dull, inclement season is on us."

What a humiliating spectacle? These whining wretches are willing to take any "reasonable wages" and "save the boss hundreds of dollars." But if they were men they would stand by the union and uphold union wages and thus have enough independence to not beggar themselves before the public.

KEEP AWAY FROM MANITOBA.

A letter from Winnepeg, B. S., dated Jan. 19th, warns carpenters to keep away from Manitoba this Spring, in consequence of the depressed state of all trades. It further states that there are hundreds of men that would willingly do anything to secure a loaf of bread, but cannot get work. The letter concludes by saying: "I cannot describe to you the amount of distress in this place at present, and when we consider there are four more months before the snow leaves us, I don't know what will become of the poor working people. There are hundreds depending on public sympathy for support, the immigrant sheds are full, a soup kitchen is to be opened this week, and the various religious denominations are soliciting from door to door for clothing, food, or money, to alleviate the distress."

And this state of misery has been provoked by the fraudulent advertisements and glowing promises of railroad speculators and land agents, who got thousands to break up their comfortable little homes here and in Europe to perish like rotten sheep in the cold wilds of Manitoba. Let this be remembered!

—The *Messenger*, Cleveland, O., has been enlarged and is apparently prosperous in its advocacy of the industrial movement.

DISTRESS IN NEW ZEALAND.

A large meeting of the unemployed at Christ-church, New Zealand, was held on the December 12, last, when it was stated that although the season of the year was one when, as a rule, none were disengaged, yet in Canterbury alone seven hundred men were out of enployment. In the face of this fact, a large amount of free and assisted immigration is going on, and thus the evil is intensified. The meeting, besides appointing a deputation to the Government to urge upon them the necessity of providing work, and thus relieving distress, also unanimously adopted the following resolution:—"That we, the workingmen of Canterbury, consider it is the bounden duty of Government to stop free and assisted immigration: also, to take the money voted for immigration and immediately make work for the masses."

WORDS OF PRAISE.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners is rapidly increasing its membership. From all directions come the reports of meetings held by carpenters, for the purpose of abandoning the suicidal policy of keeping up a number of weak and independent unions and amalgamating the trade in one grand brotherhood. Much of the credit for this movement is due the officers of the Brotherhood, who have been working hard for years to bring about this result. In no other way can wages be kept up and made anywhere near uniform. Our local carpenters have begun to take hold of the movement in earnest, after much hard work and urging on the part of a determined and intelligent few. Before another year every carpenter worthy of the name in St. Louis will be a Brotherhood man.—*St. Louis Union.*

THE IMPOTENCY OF CAPITAL.

John Ruskin, one of the most eminent of the writers of England, in his "Letters to Workingmen," indites the following lines. It is seldom that a capitalist can be found to make such a frank avowal as is to be found in the concluding lines of the passage which we quote:

"If all the money in the hands of all the capitalists in the world were destroyed, and the notes and bills burned, the gold irrecoverably buried, and all the machines and aparatus of manufacturers crushed by a mistake in signals in one catastrophe, and nothing remained but the land, with its animals and vegetables and buildings for shelter, the poorer population would be very little worse off than they are at this instant, and their labor, instead of being "limited" by the destruction would be greatly stimulated. They would feed themselves from the animals and growing crops; heap here and there a few tons of iron-stone together; build rough walls around them to get a blast, and in a fortnight they would have iron tools again, and be plowing and fighting again just as usual. It is only we who had the capital who would suffer. We should not be able to live idle as we do now, and many of us —I, for instance—would starve at once.

CARPENTERS' STRIKE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

By telegram from Victoria, B. C., dated March 4, we were informed that 200 carpenters were on strike in that city beginning March 1, for the adoption of the nine hour system.

OUR PHILADELPHIA UNION OFFERS AN AMNESTY.

The following is an extract from a circular issued by Philadelphia Union No. 8, dated March 3, 1884:

After due deliberation at our last regular meeting, it was decided to suspend the rules regulating the re-instatement of suspended members, from the first Monday in March to the first Monday in June, 1884, to wit: be it

RESOLVED, That all suspended members who are six months or more in arrears for dues, fines or assessments, shall be re-instated to membership on payment of three months back dues and three months advance dues, and that said members so reinstated shall be entitled to all money benefits that may accrue to them after a continual membership of six months from date of re-instatement. Further

RESOLVED, That all members more than three months, and less than six months, shall, on payment of a like sum, be entitled to all benefits after the lapse of six weeks from date of re-instatement. Any member paying all back dues and assessments that may be standing against him on the books shall be entitled to all benefits after six weeks.

By special resolution it was decided that the initiation fee for new members shall be $1.00 from March 3, to June 2, 1884; and all candidates initiated under these rules shall pay $1.00 initiation fee and three months' advance dues on the night of his initiation, and shall be entitled to all local and national benefits after a continual membership of twelve months.

STAGES OF PROGRESS.

In the most primitive times the strong killed the weak and ate them. That was the age of *cannibalism*. Later, the conquerors made captives in battle and set them to labor for them. That was the age of *slavery*. By-and-by the slaves were permitted to retain some portion of their earning for their own use. That was the age of *serfdom*. The fourth or present stage of human evolution is *wagedom* The producer's toil is treated as a chattel to be purchased in the cheapest market. He gets subsistence, money no, not always that—while the non-producer revels in rent, interest and profit. The fifth era of development, when co-operative industry shall supersede competitive or cut-throat production, has hardly yet dawned. It is in the womb of the future, and its heralds, like their precursors at every antecedent stage in the progress of the race, must look for nothing but misrepresentation, obloquy and persecution.

EIGHT HOURS WORK A DAY.

The Stonecutters of Baltimore have been working under an eight-hour system of their own formation for some years back. Eight hours is the rule in the yards, while "setters" engaged on work outside are permitted to make nine hours, getting extra pay, in order to facilitate the progress of other work.

With this example before them, and in the absence of any statute law, our bricklayers, carpenters, painters and plumbers have only to declare this Spring that eight hours or nine hours, as may be decided, shall constitute a day's work, to make a movement of the kind a success. As to a reduction of wages following such a step, ask the stonecutter about that, and he will tell you no mechanic in Baltimore receives higher wages per day than he does, and eight hours is his working day, too.—*Baltimore Free Labor Press.*

—The Washington *Craftsman* says: The Carpenters' Union of Washington is an earnest body of men, and the vast improvement in the condition of those engaged in the various branches of the building trade is largely due to its efforts.

TRADE NOTES.

—Stair Builders in Baltimore will demand $3 per day after May 1.

—The Cigarmakers' International Union have a travelling organizer in the field, who is doing effective work in organizing new unions.

—Carpenters are filing their saws and oiling up their boring machines ready for a big summer's work in Akron, O. So says the *Trades and Labor Journal* of that city.

—Building Trades Leagues and Trades Assemblies are being formed in several quarters, and our carpenters' unions are by no means in the rear guard in organizing them.

—The Plasterers of Washington will not work with non-union hod carriers, and the Hod Carriers' Union has announced that they will not carry mortar to non-union plasterers.

—Plasterers at St. Louis have advanced their wages 10 per cent. The bosses paid the advance without resistance, as they wish to avoid trouble when the building boom opens.

—Recently the builders of Cleveland endeavored to break down the nine-hour rule of the Bricklayers' Union in force last season. A strike resulted and the bricklayers compelled the observance of the rule.

—The Telegraphers of America are again being urged to combine for their own protection. In the last number of the *Telegraphers' Advocate* an able appeal appears, addressed to the craft, and pointing out the necessity of organization.

—Convict contract labor in Ohio is doomed. A bill has been passed abolishing the system as fast as the contracts expire; it goes into effect May 1st. In New York the system has been destroyed in the same way by act of the Legislature.

—The Book Binders Union of London will celebrated the Centennial of their organization on June 28, next. For one hundred years this society has upheld the banner of union in their trade, and has lived to see the downfall of the combination laws and other restrictions directed against them.

—The experiment of the Pullman Car Works, at Pullman, Ill., in employing green carpenters is very expensive. It only raised the pay-roll of the company about 75 per cent. The company tried to reduce its employes' wages, they struck, and a majority then left. It would have been better for the company to have paid their old hands honest wages.

—The *Labor Enquirer*, Denver, Col., is a first-class paper in the interest of the working classes generally. J. R. Buchanan, its proprietor and editor, has made herculean efforts to sustain it, and indeed it is truly worthy of all support. If any of our readers wish a staunch labor weekly, send a dollar for a year's subscription to J. R. Buchanan, 370 Larimer street, Denver, Col.

—According to the report of the Amalgamated Carpenters for March, trade is very dull in Great Britain and Ireland, and the labor market overstocked, and the same situation prevails in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The Society has 402 branches and 23,259 members. 1108 are on unemployed benefit, 550 on sick benefit and 99 on superannuation benefit. $471,222 has been paid in unemployed benefits in the five years from 1877 to 1882.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, APRIL, 1884.

RULES FOR PROPORTIONING THE STRENGTH OF THE VARIOUS PIECES COMPOSING A ROOF.

We give below Mr. Tredgold's rules for proportioning the strength of the various pieces composing a roof. In estimating the pressure on a roof for apportioning the proper size of the timber to be used, not only the weight of the timber and the slates, or other covering, must be taken, but also the weight of snow which in severe climates may be on its surface, and also the force of the wind, which we may calculate at forty pounds per superficial foot.

MATERIAL.	INCLINATIONS.	WEIGHT PER SQUARE FOOT.
Tin	Rise 1 in. to ft.	⅝ to 1¼ lbs.
Copper	" 1 " "	1 " 1½ "
Lead	" 2 " "	4 " 7 "
Zinc	" 3 " "	1¼ " 2 "
Pine Shingle	" 5 " "	1½ " 2½ "
Long Cypress Shingles	" 6 " "	4 " 5 "
Slate	" 6 " "	5 " 9 "

The weight of the covering materials, and the slope of the roof which is usually given, are contained in the following table:

In the following rules Tredgold assumes 66⅔ lbs. as the weight of each square foot. It is customary to make the rafters, the beams, posts and struts all of the same thickness.

IN A KING POST ROOF OF PINE TIMBER.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL RAFTERS—Multiply the square of the length in feet by the span in feet, and divide the product by the cube of the thickness in inches; then multiply the quotient by 0.96 to obtain the depth in inches.

Mr. Tredgold gives also the following rule for the rafters as more general and reliable:—

Multiply the square of the span in feet, by the difference between the principals in feet, and divide the product by 60 times the rise in feet; the quotient will be the area of the section of the rafter in inches.

If the rise is one-fourth of the span, multiply the span by the distance between the principals, and divide by fifteen for the area of the section.

When the distance between the principals is 10 feet, the area of the section is two-thirds the span.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF A TIE BEAM, WHEN IT HAS TO SUPPORT A CEILING ONLY.—Divide the length of the longest unsupported part by the cube foot of the breadth, and the quotient multiplied by 1.47 will give the depth in inches.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF THE KING POST.—Multiply the length of the post in feet by the span in feet; multiply the product by 0.12, which will give the area of the section of the post in inches. Divide this by the breadth for the thickness, or by the thickness for the breadth.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF STRUTS. Multiply the square root of the length supported in feet by the length of the strut in feet, and the square root of the product multiplied by 0.8 will give the depth, which multiplied by 0.6 will give the thickness.

IN A QUEEN POST ROOF OF PINE TIMBER.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF TIE PRINCIPAL RAFTERS—Multiply the square of the length in feet by the span in feet, and divide the product by the cube of the thickness in inches: the quotient multiplied by 0.155 will give the depth.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF THE TIE BEAM.—Divide the length of the longest unsupported part by the cube root of the breadth, and the quotient multiplied by 1.47 will give the depth.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF THE QUEEN POST.—Multiply the length in feet of the post, by the length in feet of that part of the tie beam it supports: the product multiplied by 0.27 will give the area of the post in inches; and the breadth and thickness can be found as in the king post.

The dimensions of the struts are found as before.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF A STRAINING BEAM.—Multiply the square root of the span in feet by the length of the straining beam in feet, and extract the square root of the product; multiply the result by 0.9 which will give the depth in inches. The beam, to have the greatest strength, should have its depth to its breadth in the ratio of 10 to 7; therefore to find the breadth, multiply by 0.7.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF PURLINS.—Multiply the cube of the length of the purlin in feet by the distance the purlins are apart in feet, and the fourth part of the product will give the depth in inches, and the depth multiplied by 0.6 will give the thickness.

TO FIND THE DIMENSIONS OF THE COMMON RAFTERS WHEN THEY ARE PLACED 12 INCHES APART.—Divide the length of the bearing in feet by the cube root of the breadth in inches, and the quotient multiplied by 0.72 will give the depth in inches.

A PRIZE EXHIBITION OF WORKS IN WOOD.

From the *Labour Standard*, London, we learn that the Masters, Wardens and Courts of Assistants of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, and the Worshipful Company of Joiners (Old Trade Guilds), of the city of London, propose to hold an exhibition of models, drawings and specimens of wood-wosk done by carpenters and joiners only. The exhibition will be held in Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, in the city of London, in May and June, 1884. Prizes are offered in constructive carpentry (for strength); constructive and ornamental carpentry (for architectural or picturesque effect as well as strength); joinery (all to be done by hand); carving in wood (hand work); models or drawings.

The prizes are open to all artificers or draughtsmen, residing within the British Dominion, or British subjects by whose hand the wood has been framed or worked, or the drawing made. There are 50 prizes offered for the different classes of work, and ranging from £5 and a medal for first prize, down to £2 for second prize. For further particulars apply to S. W. Preston, Carpenters' Hall, London Wall, E. C., London, England.

WHO KNOWS JOHN POPE HODNETT?

The following letter from San Francisco requests some information which we can not give very fully. The last we heard of the ubiquitous John Pope Hodnett was in the Spring of 1882, when he was in Chicago getting up meetings of 3 or 4 persons, and telegraphing through the Associated Press, of meetings of thousands in favor of his political schemes. Happening there at the time with the memory of these dispatches in our minds, and with a glimmer of his past record as a political charlatan, we at once inquired for the illustrious Mr. Hodnett. But judge of our surprise, when upon patient inquiry among all classes of active labor men, we found Hodnett had not a corporal's guard in attendance at his meetings. There are many of our readers, no doubt, who are well versed in J. P. Hodnett's notorious record, and we call upon them to give us all necessary information to satisfy this letter:

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11, 1884.

BRO. MCGUIRE,

Do you know a Mr. John Pope Hodnett? I think I remember reading a caution from you printed in THE CARPENTER about him.

Now this fellow is here, and is endeavoring to start some political farce, which he calls a Labor Reform Party. No one knows anything about him. He has his pockets stuffed with letters purporting to be from Gen. Hancock, Gen. Logan, and in fact from every man of note in the nation. Will you please write on receipt of this and let me know of his antecedents. I do not wish any more agitators to pull the wool over the eyes of the honest sons of toil, who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, and never hobnobbed with either Grant, or Logan, or Hancock. I ask from you now all the information you can give, because I am determined to down such scoundrels. He who aims at labor reform through politics should at least possess the endorsement of the men, whom he professes to serve.

(Signed) EDWARD OWENS.

—During the month of January, 1884, the Cigarmakers' Int. Union had an income of $11,861.46, and expended $9,855.17 in benefits as follows:

Assistance to traveling members	$2,568.31
Sick benefit	2,506.89
Strike benefit	4,419.97
Death benefit	360.00
Total	$9,855.17

A TRADES UNION DINNER.

The first annual celebration of the United Building Trades Societies of Hereford, England, was held in the Foresters' Hall, on Monday, Feb. 15, when three hundred and twenty-five sat down to dinner. Mr. Pulley, M. P. (in the chair). In proposing "Success to the Combined Building Trades Societies," the Chairman contrasted the condition of the people to-day with that of their forefathers in the early part of the present century. When they considered that the working classes of the country were receiving from £300,000,000 to £400,000,000 in weekly wages, one could hardly be surprised at the amount of money which was now held by savings banks, friendly societies, trade unions and other organizations. The wages of workmen had been increased from 80 to 100 per cent, and their working hours diminished 20 per cent. As the result, the average duration of life had increased, in men from 40 to 42 years, and in women from 42 to 45½ years. The chief cause of this progress had doubtless been the great stimulus given to trade by the inventive genius of one of their own class, George Stephenson. The extension of the franchise in 1867 had taught the working classes to recognise and make use of their own power by bringing before the Legislature those grievances which they wanted redressed. He congratulated workmen on having in the House of Commons two able champions in Mr. Broadhurst and Mr. Burt, and he hoped that in the next Parliament they would have other men of their own body to represent them. He thought that the purposes of trade unions were often much misunderstood, and quoted figures given by Mr. Frederic Harrison at the Nottingham Trades Union Congress, as evidence of the beneficial work accomplished by trade societies. Having exhorted his hearers to use their advantages for mental improvement, and alluded to the benefits conferred on inventors by the Patents Act of last session, he concluded by expressing the hope that the building trade of Hereford might continue to prosper as in the past, securing comfort and happiness for themselves and families, and thus adding to the wealth and prosperity of the country which was so so dear to them all. Mr. J. S. Murchie, General Secretary to the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, in responding to the toast, said that the society which he represented had been in existence twenty-three years and a half, and in that time they had attained a membership of 23,000, and had expended in benefits no less a sum than £450,000. Of this amount only £66,000 was expended in trade privileges, which included strike pay; but he should be within the mark when he stated that one-third of their expenditure in what they called strike pay was spent in deputations to employers and in the cost of boards of conciliation and arbitration. He had never been an advocate of strikes; he always exhorted his constituents to do all in their power to avert contests with their employers; but he would never give up the right to strike, believing their was much truth in the statement of the late Duke of Wellington that the best way to maintain peace was to be prepared for war. After quoting statistics showing the magnitude and value of the operations of trade societies, Mr. Murchie said that the were building up institutions which in their time would promote greater things, and were putting into the hands of those who would follow them the machinery and tools with which their children would erect a better superstructure than they had been able in their day to build.

A WEALTHY LABOR AGITATOR.

William Morris, the wealthy English artist and poet, is crusading through England as a champion of Social Democracy. In one of his recent lectures he said he saw no help for the present state of things in England but a complete revolution. Without it, he added, our rich people would only "grow more stupid, ferocious and unhappy, more degraded than any set of men whom the world has yet seen," and our poor more vile, wretched and enslaved. The battle was now between two classes, rich and poor. He abdicated his class and came over to the side of the poor. He wished to stand for man, for humanity. He could not do that if he kept to his class. He called upon others to leave luxury and remove penury. He wanted everybody born into the world to have his due share of the work of the world and the wealth made by man, to live neither tormenting his fellows nor be tormented by them.

FEWER HOURS, BETTER PAY.

Did it ever strike you, sons of toil, that the trades working the shortest hours, get the highest wages?

When you read here that the Stonecutters are working eight hours a day, and receive $4.50 for that time, do you ask yourselves why it is?

Do you ever think, when you go home exhausted, after doing ten or twelve hours in the shop or factory, why it is that there are others who are working from two to four hours less a day than you and yet receive two dollars or more for the fewer hours?

Look at the facts, and tell them to your fellow-workmen. Tell them how much the Stonecutters are getting; that the Plasterers have nearly every man in the Union, are only working nine hours a day and receiving the highest wages in the Building Trades, and seldom have any trouble; that the Coopers are well organized and work only nine hours; that the Carvers only work nine hours. This is the situation in New York.

Tell them of these trades, and then show them that from want of organization the Bakers are working from twelve to fourteen hours a day, at from ten to twelve dollars a week; that the Cackmakers are working the life out of themselves at about the same hours and less wages; that the Cloth Cap Finishers have to work from fourteen to sixteen hours a day for a bare existence; that the thousands of Car Drivers work from fourteen to eighteen hours a day for not more than two dollars. Show them that the better a trade is organized the fewer hours the men have to work, for which they receive the highest wages. Just as your trade is organized, so will your hours and wages be.

All the laws on all the statute books of all the States and nation cannot better your condition until every man in your trade becomes a Unionist, and takes a decided stand to insist on shorter hours. If you are lukewarm in your Unionism, you will remain in the same position you now are in. You must be energetic and agressive. Do not always be defending yourself against the enemies of union—those in your own ranks. Attack them; show wherein they are wronging themselves, as well as you; appeal to their selfishness—their pockets; demonstrate to them that by joining with you they will be able to receive more money for shorter hours.—*John Swinton's Paper.*

OBITUARY.

At our regular meeting of Branch 8, Chicago Union No. 21, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, held on February 20, the following was received and adopted:

Your committee, to prepare resolutions of sympathy and condolence, regarding the death of our brother, ERICK C. PAULSIN, beg leave to report the following:

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty Father to remove from our midst our well-beloved Brother, ERICK C. PAULSIN,

Resolved, That in his death our Branch and Union has lost a true and faithful member and mechanic, one who all times was devoted to the principles of our Order, and one who faithfully endeavored to carry out its beautiful teachings.

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to the bereaved wife, family and friends of the deceased, in the loss of a kind husband and father, one who at all times had the welfare of his family at heart, which he has shown by securing a membership card of Union No. 21, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. While mingling our tears of regret that we have been deprived of his companionship, we express our earnest hope that even so great a bereavement may be ordered for their highest good, be it

Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the Branch record, and that a copy be furnished the family of the deceased, and copies be forwarded for publication in the following papers: THE CARPENTER, *Truth*, *Arbeiter-Zeitung*, *Den Nye Tid* and *Skandinavinn.*

OLLIG J. LARSEN,
PETER NELSON,
W. J. HANSEN,
Committee.

A CARD OF THANKS.

I wish o return my sincere thanks to the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Branch No. 6 of Union No. 21, Chicago, for their kind attention during my husband Thomas Caulson's sickness and death, which occured on March 2d.

Mr. Caulson leaves a circle of friends of the Brotherhood to mourn his loss.

I wish the Brotherhood the Brotherhood a future and everlasting success.

MRS. S. J. COULSON,
No. 72 Finnel st., Chicago, Ill.

CHICAGO, March 22, 1884.

BLACK LIST.

JOHN SULLIVAN was expelled on March 7, 1884, from San Francisco Union No. 22 for working piece work. He is about 5 ft. 7 in. in height, stoutly built, heavy sandy moustache, blue eyes and dark hair, and about 40 or 45 years of age and married. This is for a second offence of the same kind.

THE WORKING CLASS.—ITS HISTORY AND STRUGGLES.

By special request we reproduce a synopsis of a lecture delivered by our Gen. Secretary, P. J. McGuire, on the above subject, on Jan. 21, 1884, in the Lyceum, Halifax, Nova Scotia. This synopsis is given as published by the Halifax daily papers.

The lecture treated first of the early history of the working classes—how before the Christian era they had been kept in a condition of slavery and next in serfdom. It was many centuries before the shackles began to be stricken from their limbs; and the idea gained ground that there was as much dignity in labor as among those who are the masters of labor. The stages of emancipation from serfdom, with the assistance in England and France of the burgher and commercial classes, were thoroughly traced, till to-day the working class are wage-workers. They enjoyed the liberty to work under wage conditions. They now give their labor to those who are willing and able to hire them. The employers of labor simply paying what the market affords—often less; and only less when the working class is so stupid that it does not organize to command more. The wages system is the outcome of civilization and is the best we have had yet, and we should try to better it.

To-day the working class had to face the same struggle that their fathers fought, only the more keen because the combatants were the more intelligent.

The workers had hearts to feel their wrongs, and the right to proclaim those wrongs. All men who workers are either by the hand or head contribute to the social welfare of mankind. And all workers should combine together and consider how to overcome the great spectre of poverty that overhangs the homes of millions in America to-day. Forms of government did but little to improve the condition of the working class. Living under a republican form of government, the workers were not much better off than those who lived under a monarchial form of government. The working classes themselves were to blame for the condition in which they found themselves to-day.

Why is child labor to-day brought into competition with parent labor? Why is there any overworking of the laboring class? Why are men compelled to work longer hours than they ought to work? Why is not labor as enervating, ennobling and enjoyable as any other task? Why is it degrading and ignoble?—Why? Because the laboring classes themselves do not feel and appreciate the nobility of labor! The man who earned an honest living by digging in the sewer was more honorable than the man, rolling along in his carriage, who lived on what he did not produce.

The great wrong is that workingmen should have to struggle from hand to mouth for their living, with their children nearly starving, only to go to work as soon as they were able in competition with their parents. The condition of working people in England fifty years ago was improved by agitation and organization, and it was through these means they had obtained inspectors for the mines and factories and all the legislation that had been gained. It was a memorable struggle. The working class had begun to learn that their work was not so much in the political, as in the social world. They had formerly thought their condition was to be improved by one-sided political support, but had subsequently come to social cohesion and class organization as their aid. The organization of labor was briefly touched upon in earlier times, from before the landing of Julius Cæsar in England to the famous craft-guilds, which were so instrumental in obtaining Magna Charta.

The history of the struggles for working class emancipation was grand, ancient and glorious, and it was the duty of the workingmen of to-day to keep up their claim to the history of their class and make the line more glorious in the future.

The world of labor had been revolutionized within the present century. Machinery had followed closely the introduction of steam. Electricity quickly followed, and to-day the producing power had multiplied to such an extent that is was as bewildering as it was wonderful to keep pace with the progress of events. He illustrated his argument by figures. Before the invention of machinery, it took one man a day to pick one pound of cotton. Now a man can pick 500 lb. per day. One girl in a cotton factory can do the work that it took fifty to do then; while in the harvest field one man does to-day what required the services of 384 before the introduction of labor-saving machinery In 1845, in Massachusetts, 45,877 men were employed in the manufacture of 20,896,312 pairs of boots and shoes. In 1875, only 30 years later, 48,090 men produced 59,762,856 pairs of shoes! In 1865 there were 206 boot and shoe factories. In 1875 the number had increased to 1461. The demand for labor was decreasing every year.

The question occurs: What became of the surplus labor?

Some were forced into other occupations. Some to jail, and the rest into early graves. The only remedy was to reduce the hours of labor to keep pace with the increase of wealth and the introduction of machinery and inventions.

He quoted a statement from Gladstone, that the amount of wealth produced between 1850 and 1870 equalled more than all the accumulations of the first half of the century, and then asked, What share of this goes to the producer, the worker? The worker produces all wealth for it is only by labor that wealth is possible, yet the worker only get his wages while he is at work, the large proportion of his production going to the employers. It is estimated that in the United States the laboring classes only get one-sixth of their production.

Every man or women who earns his or her living by hands or brains belongs to the working class and it comprises the great bulk of the people. In the United States the working class comprised seven-tenths of the population, but they hold only one-fifth of the wealth. The three-tenths of the people who got four-fifths of the wealth by speculative means did a great wrong. The wrongs of labor ought to be righted. The laboring class were coming to the fore with new ideas—not as conspirators against the government or against society but over and above board.

Labor organizations come to-day with a new idea for the benefit of mankind. They come to preach a holier gospel than was ever taught by the economists, they say it is wrong, unjust and immoral to make labor a mere commodity in the market, to put it in the same scale with a barrel of pork or a ton of coal, to be regulated in value according to demand and supply. It is manifestly unfair to put out labor like a slave into the market, to be knocked down to any bidder.

Economists told us that if there was a surplus of pork on the market, the price must go down and their only statesmanship in times past was to dispose of surplus labor by getting men killed in battle But that time is passing away.

Labor is a duty, an individual and social duty incumbent upon all. It is unjust to put human labor on the market to be knocked down to any bidder. He protested against putting the value of the labor of a bread winner on a par with the value of a dead pig. If a barrel of pork or a ton of coal is not wanted, so that it is not sold to-day, it can wait without detriment till some other day. But a day's human labor lost was lost forever. He protested against that political economy, which consigned the labor of the working classes to the level of the brute creation. When there was a surplus of coal or cotton, the speculators did not let the price drop—not they; they combined through *exchanges*. And so should the workers combine to protect the value of their labor. Yet these same speculators object to combinations for maintaining the price of labor when there was a surplus. Oh, but they say, capital runs great risks! So does labor. Workingmen were willing to let capitalists receive interests for the risks they ran; but workingmen must also be paid for the risks they run. But the market won't afford it, argue the employers. There are brains enough in the world to devise means to readjust things to better advantage for the working class. That it was not done was because there is too much animal selfishness among men.

The question for those in authority to see to was to so regulate things that a man who is willing to work should not be compelled to go idle. The trouble is, the labor question is yet a new one, and the laboring classes are only beginning to organize. But when they are fully and properly organized they will then be able not only to command the services of all scientists and humanitarians, but they can also emancipate themselves from the social thraldom of ages.

He did not propose to antagonize any interest, any man of wealth, or any social class. They did not want to level down, but to level up. There was plenty of room. The first step was to organize the working class, as a class, in trades unions and labor societies. They could only lift themselves by education, not only in book learning, skill and mechanics, but also by a knowledge of the industrial problem of the condition of mankind the world over to-day.

The working class had to organize for the consideration of the great questions of the day. Workingmen should devote themselves more to questions of labor than to mere party politics.

He announced that in his lecture the following evening on "Trades Unionism and The Labor Question," he would enter into a fuller elucidation of the entire subject.

After remarks by the mayor and representative working men, who occupied seats on the platform, and the governor, the meeting was brought to a close by votes of thanks to Mr. McGuire and Governor Richey. Selections of music were given by the band of the garrison artillery during the evening.

THE WORK OF TRADE UNIONS.

BY GEORGE HOWELL.

Funeral Allowance. This is one of the oldest of the benefits established in connection with trade societies—it is indeed coeval with their very existence. In the earlier period of their history, when the "protection of trade privileges" was really their sole object, this allowance was always added or attached. It was so in the old guilds: indeed, it seems to have originated with the religious guilds, and to have been intended not only as a means of ensuring decent but "Christian" burial, masses or prayers for the soul of the departed being partly provided for in the ordinances of nearly all the earlier guilds, and subrequently in most of the craft guilds of the Middle Ages. In some unions it is still the only additional provision beyond trade protection. It was, doubtless, this very simple feature in their constitution that gave rise to the notion that friendly society objects formed the fundamental basis of trade unions, and that they were perverted from their original purpose and intention by tacking on the protection of trade privileges and interests as an afterthought, as it were, and, in the opinion of some, a pernicious afterthought, and the father of no end of mischief, socially and industrially. Nor is it correct to suppose that the form of the friendly society was used by the unions merely as a cloak for the furtherance of their own selfish designs. This was not the case in scarcely any instance—certainly it was not so in the majority of cases; nor in many instances was there any connection between two objects, save and except the one now under consideration—funeral benefit. At one time, in consequence of the Combination Laws, nearly all kinds of association being then unlawful, however laudable the purposes for which they were established, no doubt the friendly-society form of constitution was partially resorted to as a cover, or, at least, it wore that aspect to the outside public; but then, as now, the one great object of all trade unions was the protection of trade privileges, which was construed in law as being in "restraint of trade," a doctrine which in effect made every such association an illegal combination and rendered all members thereof guilty of conspiracy. And many were persecuted and imprisoned, on one pretence and another, for belonging to, and taking an active part in, the working of such associations. The only time when the unions may be said to have made friendly societies subservient to their purpose was during the time that their rules were deposited with the Registrar of Friendly Societies as a means of protection to their funds, which fancied protection lasted about twelve years. But in this case it was not the friendly societies that were used—it was merely the law giving them recognition, legality, and protection, that was taken advantage of, or rather it was its machinery, so to speak, for the clause under which the unions claimed protection, was drafted and inserted in the Bill, with the view of giving such protection, and was carried, and thereafter became part of the Statute Law on the subject. It was this fact that made the dicision of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn in 1867, in the case of Hornby *v.* Close, seem all the more cruel, inasmuch as the section or clause ostensibly intended for a given purpose—protection of the funds of certain organisations—absolutely failed on a technical point, when a test arose and was tried. It is not less singular that real protection was accorded by an Act called the Recorders' Act, the 31 and 32 Vic., c. 116, intended for quite a different purpose, and for the protection of another class of persons altogether.

The amounts severally paid as funeral allowance during 1881, and the same payable in each case at death, were as follows:—

Name of Society.	Amounts payable. Member.	Wife.	Gross Amounts.
	£	£	£ s. d.
Amalgamated Society of Engineers.....	12	5	7,863 19 9
Friendly Society of Ironfounders.....	10	5	2,155 0 0
Boilermakers & Iron Shipbuilders.....	12	6	2,384 1 0
Steam Engine Makers' Society.....	12	5	580 0 0
Ironmoulders of Scotland.....	10	5	1,155 0 0
Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners....	12	5	3,174 0 0
Amalgamated Society of Tailors.....	10	6	2,309 19 9
Totals, seven societies, one year.....	..	..	18,622 5 6

The following are the several amounts for the five previous years:—

	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	Totals for 5 years.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1.....	7,539	7,659	7,874	7,387	6,553	37,012
2.....	1,810	2,010	2,005	2,160	1,565	9,960
3.....	1,897	1,929	2,137	2,379	2,261	10,603
4.....	605	695	597	617	589	3,103
5.....	1,430	1,285	1,985	1,760	1,750	8,210
6.....	1,506	1,702	1,946	2,003	1,924	9,081
7.....	2,492	2,367	2,509	2,515	2,368	12,251
Tot...	17,279	17,647	19,053	18,821	17,010	89,810

THE PRINCIPLES OF OUR BROTHERHOOD.

The following very excellent address was lately delivered by a member of Union No. 39, Rushville, Ind.:

Trades unionism has for its foundation principles that have commanded the respect of the wisest and most humane of mankind, and they have also been feared by capitalists, who, to satisfy their lust for power, have deluged this great earth in human blood. We all know that the great principles of our organization are: "They who produce this world's wealth should have their equal share of it," and it does not require a lengthy argument to convince any laboring man that the toilers do not own the wealth they create, and it is fast becoming a recognized fact that trades unions are not alone protective to the working man, but the surest and best aid to righteous legislation. I will venture to say that carpenters who have common sense or any judgment at all, will not deny the need of organization.

And about non-union men. Can they give any excuse for not joining our union? They may plead poverty. But that is the very reason they should join the union, because the very object of trades unions is to better their financial condition. Again there are carpenters in this town who are half Vanderbilts; They think it a disgrace to talk to a man who has had the moral courage to say that he will assist in the emancipation of the most down-trodden and oppressed of trades. Many people are disposed to blame strikers and condemn strikes; sometimes they are to blame, but combining and striking is the only remedy labor has against selfish and combined capitalists. If the principle of the golden rule was to govern the world, there would be no occasion or necessity for strikes, and if monied combinations will not act upon this reasonable and just rule, then let them suffer. How much better are they than thieves? In my estimation the thief is the best; the thief steals from the wealthy who can spare, while the capitalist steals from the laboring man and his family. Our town has its full share of these h——l hounds, and we want no shrinking or dodging these kind of men, but hang to them till the last dog is dead and his skin spoiled. We want to stop patronizing men who are opposed to our order. We must work strictly for the good of our order as brothers. Our trade should be the foremost of all trades, but it is the most down-trodden and abused trade now in existence, and our little organized band must help lift it up to that position rightfully belonging to it, and, brothers, it can only be done by everyone of us laying boldly hold of the work before us, and never give up the fight until the enemy's flag is trailed in the dust and our own watchword of *Labor Omnia Vincit* proudly triumphant.

—Bro. F. E. Rames, President of Charlestown Union, No. 52, has been appointed Deputy Organizer for South Carolina and Georgia. An appropriation of money has been granted him to organize Savannah.

THE CARPENTER.

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P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary.

184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, APRIL, 1884.

—Irksome work without hope means slow torture for life.

—Jersey Justice gives a judge 5,000 dollars a year, and a tramp six months.

—Five poor men must die young in order that one rich man may live to be old.

—What does the receipt of a week's wages mean? That the man who gets them has given at least six day's work to his employer for the privilege of getting two day's pay.

—Boycott the New York *Tribune* and the *Family Story Paper*. They are published by parties who believe in paying Chinese wages to American workingmen. And don't forget to boycott Straiton & Storm's cigars for just the very same reason.

—Adam Smith, the great economist and author of the "Wealth of Nations," once said: "Employers are in a permanent conspiracy to keep wages down." Apparently a hundred years ago, when the poor could not read, political economists were not afraid to speak the truth.

—We call the attention of our Canadian members to an item on our second page, as to a Prize Exhibition of Wood Work to be held in London in May and June next. They are eligible under the rules to enter for the prizes.

—With this issue we conclude the series of admirable lectures on the Labor Question, fourteen in number, which we have published in successive issues. Since we began their publication these lectures have been widely copied and re-published in the labor press of the country, and they have been read and made the subject of discussion, not only in our unions, but in many labor societies. We understand they will soon appear in pamphlet form.

SOLIDARITY OF LABOR.

That workingmen have a unity of interests is now generally admitted. The dismal day when one branch of labor looked with scorn upon another and denominated it inferior has passed. Workingmen everywhere rapidly recognize that true fraternity, which places the mechanic and the laborer, shoulder to shoulder in organization to mutually assist each other. And thus will the sovereignty of labor be established. Much of this good work is due to the wholesome effects of central labor unions, trades councils and trades assemblies, where delegates from the manifold branches of labor meet and jointly legislate for each others' good. Those who formerly knew naught of each other's needs and cared less, are drawn together by the bonds of collective interests. There, in these trades councils or trades assemblies, the carpenter, the tailor, the stonecutter and printer, and all branches of trade are represented. They are all wrapped up in each others' welfare. And when one is attacked all are ready to rush to the rescue.

A WORD WITH NON-UNION MEN.

The recent statement in the New York Tribune, that the most skillful and efficient workmen are to be found outside the pale of union organizations, is a falsehood so mendacious and colossal, so entirely at variance with even the semblance of fact that we are at a loss which to condemn most, the utter disregard of truth, or the estimate placed upon the intelligence of its readers. We certainly do not claim that admission to a Typographical Union, or any other Union, will make an inferior workman a skillful one, or that exclusion therefrom will transform a number one mechanic into a botch; but we do claim that non-membership, as a rule, arises from one of two causes—incompetency or moral cowardice and that no valid reason can be assigned, why an honorable, qualified workman should refuse to identify himself with an organization which secures the highest remuneration for his services, and whose primary and essential objects are his financial and material welfare.

Trades Unions are the creatures of necessity, and will remain so as long as our competitive wages system prevails. "Defence, not Defiance," is their motto. They are based on a practical recognition of the fact that in union there is strength; that the united demands of five hundred workmen, organized for mutual protection and the recognition and enforcement of their rights, will secure what the disunited individual efforts of these five hundred will fail to accomplish; that the same causes will produce the same results, whether tested in the industrial centres of Lynn, Lyons or Manchester; that if our so-called republican institutions are different from those of the old world, selfish human nature is the same; that in conflicts between money and muscle, muscle is invariably placed at a disadvantage. On the part of capital it is a contest for the possession of the surplus; on the part of labor, a struggle for the absolute necessaries of life. Under these circumstances, and they are daily becoming more and more apparent, we insist the mechanic who refuses or neglects to identify himself with his trade organization is a libel on the human race, and unworthy the name of protector, husband or father.

The charge so freely made that the advice of the ultraist is the advice that controls their counsels, is as false as it is cowardly, for thirty years we have been identified with their deliberations, during the greater portion of which we have enjoyed special facilities for judging of the action—not of one craft, but of many—through their associations, and conscientiously affirm that in nineteen cases out of twenty—the sober second thought prevails, and that the rational, conservative address, in which hasty, ill-advised action is deprecated, and the interests of the employer as well as the interests of the employe consulted, is the peech which carries the day. Of course, there have been times when all conciliatory overtures have been abruptly rejected, thus compelling a resort to dernier measures, but they have always succeeded not preceded, such official action. As an evidence of the truth of this statement, we can cite a dozen instances where Union employes have voluntarily reduced their wages when justice demanded it, to one where employers have voluntarily advanced them under similar circumstances.

In reply to the claim so often put forward by non-union employes. "I am receiving union wages," as a palliation of their treachery or truckling subserviency, we affirm that even were the statement true, which is seldom, if ever, the case, it proves them to be petty thieves as well as cowards. They are sneaks enough to recognize a standard which they are doing their utmost to destroy, and appropriate, without acknowledgement or responsibility, what the pluck of true men have secured. How long would they receive or their employers pay union wages were the unions wiped out of existence, and how long would they exist if their members were the cowardly, time-serving tools they (the non-unionists) have proven themselves to be? Employers may like the treason, but rest assured the traitor is estimated at his true value.

In Great Britain, the home of trades-unions, for the past fifty years they have been the great factors in the social, political and intellectual elevation of the working classes. They have been the instructors, the training schools of the masses, the forerunners of co-operative and benefit societies, and have begotten a spirit of manly independence, which has done more for the advancement of the industrial element from a political and financial standpoint than any agency with which we are acquainted. In corroboration of this statement we may refer to the Trades Union Commission of 1867, appointed by Parliament, to inquire into their objects, workings, results, etc., of which Sir Wm. Earle was chairman. It was appointed in compliance with a popular demand, raised by the magnified charges brought against the members of the Sheffield Sawgrinders' union; and out of a committee of eleven, but three or four, among them Messrs. Harrison and Mundella were recognized as friends of the workmen. Yet such was the nature of the testimony given by such leaders as McDonald, Applegarth, Allen, Guild and others, that despite the composition of the committee a favorable report was presented, their necessity and advantages acknowledged, their objects virtually endorsed, and their recognition and the protection of their funds by law secured.

A still further and more convincing evidence of their beneficial results is afforded by the following: During the past twelve months the amount of wages earned, according to Professor Leone Levi (an acknowledged authority), by the working classes in GreatBritain, was $2,240,000,000. Comparing the numbers and increase of the working classes with those of others, the Professor shows that in thirty years an average family of the lower middle classes has improved its position by thirty-seven per cent, while one of the working classes has improved by fifty-nine per cent.

We might continue this subject at length, but space forbids. We know it has been claimed by a class of apologists that as it is the ambition eventuallly of most American mechanics to become their own employers, they have not the same interest in the building up of trades unions that British workmen have—which is the veriest buncombe. Such twaddle may touch the national vanity, but the truth is, the vast majority of American workmen have all they can do to make both ends meet and keep the wolf from the door, and it is for these—the rank and file—we plead, for we cannot all be generals, colonels, or even corporals in the grand army of labor. We ask the dupes who hug this delusion to remember the ups and downs of life, that the "hosannah" of to-day becomes too often the "crucify" of to-morrow, and the employer of January the wage-worker of April.—*Chicago Inland Printer.*

—The Carpenters National Union of Germany now numbers nearly 3,000 members and has unions in 33 cities, and is growing rapidly.

—St. Louis Union, No. 5, is working actively to extend branch organizations throughout that city, so as to perfect a thorough unity of the trade with a view to better wages and more respectable treatment. Several public meetings have been held for that purpose.

FROM OTHER LANDS.

FRANCE.—The legislative inquiry into the condition of the working classes of France shows that of 20,000 carpenters Paris 10,000 are out of work or only partially employed. 160,000 workingmen are out of employment.

HOLLAND.—In Amsterdam numbers of workingmen are on the streets. The government has been compelled to lodge in the dockyards 2,000 workers, mostly heads of families. At Rotterdam the situation is no better.

DENMARK.—In Copenhagen all branches of trade are organized and rapidly increasing in strength; their trades union organ has 13,000 subscribers.

ENGLAND.—The carpenters in the ship building yards of Dumbarton have been reduced 5 pence per day.—A strike involving 16,000 persons in the shoe trade is threatened in Northampton on account of a reduction in pay.—Delegates from the various leading centres met at Darlington to prosecute a movement for a standard day's work of 10 hours.

GERMANY.—The building trade in Berlin promises to be very brisk this season, and the Carpenters' Union of Berlin has decided to demand a minimum rate of 4 marks per day from April 1.—60 carpenters are on strike in a shop at Mannheim for an advance of wages. In Magdeburg the Carpenters' Union came to an understanding with their employers and got an increase of wages, thus saving a strike.—There are 122,554 carpenters in Germany, employed by 59,162 employers, 106 of whom employ more than 50 persons.—In Glasgow the carpenters have resolved to withdraw their members from all shops paying less than 7½ pence an hour.—The shipwrights in Great Yarmouth are on strike for shorter hours, the bosses offer higher pay, but the men insist upon getting the shorter hours.

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—A charter has been granted to Union No. 55 of Denver, Col. Success to the new union.

—San Francisco Union No. 22 initiated 410 new members in the 12 months ending Jan. 1, 1884.

—Bro. Thos. Jones late of Chicago, our 8th Vice-President, is now temporarily located in Florida. We will soon hear of a union in that quarter.

—The quarterly financial report and suggestions for changes in the constitution, have been mailed to all unions. We have a few spare copies on hand and they can be had upon application.

—Bro. P. E. Nichols, late Corresponding Secretary of Oakland, Union No. 36, has taken charge of a large job at Los Angelos, Cal.

—A monthly report of the condition of the Brotherhood, its membership, finances, state of trade, hours of labor, wages, &c., in detail from each union, will hereafter be issued and sent to the unions for the use of members only.

—New unions under our jurisdiction will soon be reported in Savannah, Ga.; Maysville, Ky.; Hammond, Ind.; and Omaha, Neb. They are now in progess of temporary organization. An organizer in the field would boom us still more.

—It would be a wise policy to remit the dues of our unemployed members during the dull season of Winter. An out-of-work benefit being out of the question, the only way to hold our idle members from running into arrears and deserting us is to remit their dues.

—The carpenters of Toronto are notified to beware of a thief who has come from Chicago among them; he swindled about thirty carpenters in Chicago out of two weeks wages, and likewise swindled every man he could get a dollar from and fled to Toronto. so Toronto carpenters should keep away from him.

—In Port Colborne, Canada, there are 180 to 200 joiners at work all Winter on ship work. In a short time the job will be finished and they will scatter to their homes. We have sent them some fly leaves to explain the principles of our Brotherhood, so they may carry the leaven of unionism all through the Dominion of Canada.

...r THE BROTHERHOOD.

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—Union No. 56 has been just organized in Los Angelos, Cal.

—The carpenters of Buffalo, N. Y., hold a mass-meeting this week to advance the interests of the trade.

—Trade has improved greatly within the past month in San Francisco, nearly all the members of Union No. 22 are at work again.

—Mechanics and laborers are advised to stay away from Portland, Oregon, as the number of unemployed there is appalling.

—Our next convention will be held on the first Tuesday in August next, in Cincinnati, O. Now is the time to discuss changes in our laws.

—The Illinois State Trade and Labor Convention was held in Chicago, Ill., March 26,—28, and was very largely attended. A full report of the proceedings is crowded out of our columns this month.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Benicia, Cal.

The trade is fair, and the grain market is moving steadily with fair receipts. Having plenty of rain here, the prospects are good for California. Provisions, firm; wages have fallen a little the past month, and will resume their old standard again in a week or two. The lumber trade is high in price.

Charleston, S. C.

In looking around the city we find very few jobs and those are very small ones. But the prospects are fair for a good season now. Union No. 52 is still advancing, and the day will soon dawn when we will be able to make ourselves felt and respected by our employers. Since our last report we have initiated several new members and have the promise of many more.

Nashville, Tenn.

Business is very dull here, very little work going on; a great many carpenters out of employment, and wages very low, though there is a good prospect for a great deal of work this Spring. I think by the middle of Spring we will be able to start a branch union in our city, probably two. The carpenters here are becoming aroused in regard to our union. I think as soon as work opens they will send in their petitions pretty thickly. Last month we held a public meeting, of which the Nashville *Daily American* speaks in the highest terms. By invitation Messrs. E. T. Morris and J. M. Anderson addressrd the meeting. A large number of the craft were present. These addresses were closed by an appeal to all carpenters and joiners present, of good moral character and possessing ordinary skill, not members of the union, to come forward and join it. Much interest and enthusiasm was manifested, and beneficent results from the meeting are anticipated.

Oakland, Cal.

Our union is moving along nicely, that is to say a very harmonious feeling is prevailing. Our meetings are being well attended; we are increasing our membership and are united and strong in purpose in strengthening and carrying out our nine-hour hobby. Trade is fair for this season of the year. We have had considerable rain, this has in a great measure retarded building; we feel encouraged with the hope that in consequence of the bountiful rain that has fallen, the coming season will be more than an average one. Wages remain the same, $3.50 per day, notwithstanding the influx of a large number of outsiders that flock in from the surrounding country towns, principally for the purpose of spending the winter, hoping in the meantime to get enough work to meet their expenses.

The law governing the Endowment in my mind is very defective; it should be so changed that an assessment should always be on hand in the treasuries of the Locals, subject to call, to facilitate the prompt payment of the money to the parties that are entitled to receive it.

Portland, Oregon.

Our union is in a prosperous condition, and we initiate members every night. Times are very dull here at present, and very few men have employment. This Winter has been the hardest for laboring men ever seen in Oregon. Portland is crowded with men and more coming every day. We see strangers here every day from the East, who have become disgusted with the country and are going back East, for Oregon is not what it is cracked up to be. Wages are good, but rents and living are so high that it takes all a man can make to live, and I would advise the brother workmen in the East to stay where they are, for they cannot better themselves by coming to Oregon. There were eight hundred emigrants landed in Oregon last week, and about three hundred were families, so you see the country is filling up very fast. We are always glad to receive THE CARPENTER and receive the correspondence from the other unions throughout the U. S. and Canada. The different unions in Portland are going to form an Amalgamated Union.

J. Pride was expelled from our Union for violating section four of our general law. We are going for nine hours on the first day of May, and expect to have but very little opposition.

Hammond, Ind.

A friend of mine and member of the Carpenters' Union handed me your paper (THE CARPENTER), and, as I think, we can with very little trouble organize a union here, I write you for the papers and instructions in regard to the necessary steps toward organization. There are about three hundred carpenters in this place; we are only twenty miles from Chicago, and as the United States Rolling Stock Co. have commenced work on their shops, which are located near here, there will be fully 500 or 600 carpenters employed here this Summer. We ought to organize! Mechan cs have been cutting rates on each other (or I should say, cutting each others throats), until times with us begin to look blue.

Out of the whole batch who call themselves carpenters here we have about 25 or 30 at most, who are capable of building a common house, the balance are the merest roust-abouts. All with whom I have conversed on the subject seem anxious to organize a society here, if the frauds are kept out, so if you will send me a few copies of THE CARPENTER to distribute among contractors and "boss" carpenters, as they are called here, you will be doing a good work for the fraternity. The hard times of the past Winter and starvation wages ($1.25—$1.50 being the ruling wages paid), look as if the monied autocrats would crush us. We have some of the meanest specimens here, shoddy millionaires who, a few years ago were working for their daily bread, but who were so fortunate as to get contracts to furnish *spoiled beef* for Uncle Sam's boys at Camp Douglas, and the rebel prisoners; now they roll in luxury and plan to grind the poor mechanic in the dust. They say, I will give you work at $1.25, providing you buy all your supplies at my store, and if you do not agree to do so, will import men who will. This is a positive fact, and it will not be long 'ere we will be perfect slaves. We must organize or emigrate, and not many are able to do the latter.

Denver, Col.

The new officers for Union No. 55 are as follows: M. J. Black, President; H. J. Bonnick, Vice Pres.; Jas. D. McDonald, R. S.; D. B. Morehead, F. S.; J. D. Bailey, C. S.; Frank Bayer, Treas.; Trustees, Michael Ford, B. J. Bristol, Frank Bayer. The Trades Assembly here aims to have public agitation meetings once or twice a month. Public speaking and meetings under their care do more good than any one organization alone could do. Times are still dull here, and wages no better; a great many men out of work. The prospects are not very good ahead, as far I am able to find out. If work was more plenty we could soon have a good union here. Denver carpenters are hard to organize; a good many of them are not permanently settled here and are out of work; they don't know how long they are going to stay here. Some few, who have work, think perhaps they are all right and don't need to join a union. Some are afraid they might lose their job. It seems to me, if they would organize and all stick together, they might get better wages, and that the bosses would not dare to ask a man whether he belonged to a union or not. After we are once well organized the union men would have the preference, because it is a well-known fact the best men join the unions to protect themselves. We had a union here two or three years ago and it went down, and that hurts us a good deal. Work is dull and will be so for a month yet. It is impossible to tell just how it will be during the Summer, but it is thought there will be more work when Spring opens. Wages from $2 to $2.75, I doubt whether it would average $2.50; 10 hours a day's work. The only remedy for the journeymen carpenters of America to-day is to organize, to agitate and educate, to combine against the oppressors of the down-trodden workmen, and against the unhuman slavery of the present times.

Rushville, Ind.

There is comparatively no work going on; everything waiting for Spring. But few jobs are let as yet, and they are at starvation prices, one or two houses at less than the material can be furnished. Union No. 39 is working for a co-operative system, but we get left occasionally, because we figure "to live and let live." Our meetings are growing in interest, to use a common phrase, "we have a good time," at least once a week. Wages are low, $1.50 to $2 per day; house rent high; living away up. The usual Spring boom of a big Opera house is again on hand, but as it always has proved that it takes money to buy brick, I think the scheme will meet the same fate that its predecessors have —"die a bornin." The prospect of work for next Summer is not very promising as yet. Union No. 39 is strongly in favor of making our death benefit $1,000. It is our baby, and let us have a big baby. We are making a few converts; at one meeting we extended the hand of fellowship to four, and others are on the road from several miles distant, in fact from adjoining counties.

Some of our black sheep are still trying new schemes to get back in the fold, some are anxious to get the paper to see what we are doing, but it won't work. Union No. 39 is now composed of the bones and sinew of this place and won't stand any nonsense. This Winter has been a most uncommon hard one on laboring people, but I don't think one of our members has pledged his Summer's work to any boss to stand good for his bills this Winter, as has been the custom heretofore.

Covington, Ky.

Our city has about two hundred carpenters, and at present there are not more than one-third working, owing to the bad weather; nevertheless the prospects are very good for this season. Wages $2 to $2.50 for ten hours a day. Cost of living and rent high. Our union meets every Thursday, at 7.30 P. M. J. R. Mass has resigned as Cor. Sec'y, and John Schutte has resigned as Treasurer. This is a list of our officers: Math. Wagner, President; Wm. H. Daniel, Vice-Pres.; George Oder, Rec. Sec'y; V. G. Oliver, Fin. Sec'y; W. H. Pope, Cor. Sec'y; Henry Teipel, Treasurer; A. H. Irwin, Warden; H. District, Conductor; Fred. Cason, M. B. Rouse and Stephen Blau, Trustees.

Hamilton, Canada.

Trade still continues dull here, the architects say prospects are poor. At present there is only a few jobs of repairing on hand, which will be completed in the course of a month. If nothing new starts up, trade will be equally as dull as it has been for the past Winter. There is report of the Salvation Army intending building a large barrack, which will give employment to a number of men; the new Post Office and Custom House job wil give employment to a good number, but not before next Fall. We are advocating the nine-hour movement; so also is the bricklayers; we also intend to organize a building league. Union No. 18 is still progressing favorably.

Germantown, Pa.

Indications are that we will have a very busy season in the carpenter trade this year. Branch 1, of Philadelphia, is doing very well; of course, we have not increased our membership much during the Winter. We have about 50 members, nearly all of them in good standing. We have a mechanical drawing school in operation, taught by one of our members, and expect to largely increase our membership this season. I think that we had better not reduce the death benefit. I and many others would sooner pay more dues, so as to enable the Brotherhood to pay the $250 death benefit—say the dues be raised 10 cents per monlh. In one of our Germantown papers I notice that the American Mechanics who paid $200 death benefit have adopted a $250 death benefit, and in order to do this the different lodges have combined and the dues have been raised 3 cents per week. They say that in some cases it has increased their membership threefold, and I don't think it would help our Brotherhood any to reduce the death benefit. What inducement would we have to offer the carpenters of Germantown after telling them that we pay a death benefit of $250 and then reduce it to $100? It would look as though we were getting weak. Unions in our day must have large benefits as an attraction to get members, because nine out of every ten men never study the needs of an organization.

J. F. KELLY.

Trenton, N. J.

The outlook for carpenters in this city is good, so much that we are mustering up strength and courage to obtain an advance in wages this season.

Toledo, Ohio.

Times still dull; Wm. Schroeder and P. F. Middletown are expelled for being six months in arrears. We are getting new members every meeting night. Union No. 25 ought to have a public meeting one a month. It would strengthen us greatly.

San Francisco, Cal.

Union No, 22 has decided to hold their annual picnic this year on the first of May, and has agreed to keep that a holiday, it being the anniversary of establishing the nine hours as a day's work in this city. Oakland Unian has also promised to assist us in making the holiday general in this city, as there is quite a number of their members who work on this side of the Bay. They can be quite a help to us in this matter. Our picnic will be held at Shellmount Park. Trade seems very slow in brightening up, and we are overrun with scabs and strangers, which leaves quite a number of our members on the street.

—The Amamalgamated Trades Union, Halifax, N. S., held its second annual meeting Feb'y 21, 1884, and after routine business, the general election of officers took place and resulted as follows; Edward Wilson, President, John Saxton, Vice-Pres.; William Saunders, Rec. Sec.; Leonard Farrar, Cor. Sec.; Aaron Sinfield, Treasurer; Mark Meagher, Seargent-at-Arms; Auditing Committee: James O'Donnell, Edward Melvin, Martin O'Connor. A vote of thanks was tendered to the retiring officers, and a committee was appointed to revise the By-Laws in order to facilitate the admission of other unions.

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THE LABOR QUESTION.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE WAY OF ITS SOLUTION.

LECTURE XIV.

Our last lecture contained a sketch of the manner in which the centres of *production*, *exchange* and *consumption* should be organized, by beginning with the most simple and gradually extending until it reached the most complex operations.

We also mentioned the possibility of finding numerous difficulties in the way of our success, and I expressed the hope that we should confront these difficulties in a dispassionate and intelligent manner, in order to discover their origin and causes, so that, by analyzing and classifying these difficulties, we may have a clear knowledge of them, and thus be able to proceed toward their removal with caution and certitude.

If these difficulties are inherent within ourselves, or whether they be of our own creating, we must take such means as a knowledge of their cause would indicate, to correct and eliminate them.

Should we find that these difficulties are placed in our path by others, either from cupidity or ignorance, our work and our duty will be precisely the same: to overcome them by enlightening those who throw the difficulties in our way.

The plan and method of organization, which was outlined in our preceding lecture, may appear to be impracticable to those who have not followed the whole series, and who listen for the first time to this lecture. But to many of us nothing would appear more easy of accomplishment.

Some might object that there is not the work to do to give employment to our centres of production. We would reply that if we had only to execute such works as the nation itself requires for its army, its marine, its roads, canals, post-offices, schools, etc., enough labor would be furnished to the workers to enable them to commence operations.

When I said that the government *could* aid such an enterprise by passing a bill entitled, "A bill to provide for a series of industrial experiments," I said it advisely.

Has not the government just passed a bill giving to the Texas Pacific Railroad Company $120,000,000, and that in the interest of a few speculators? In the interest of *commerce* and the bourgeoisie, but not in the interests of *industry* and the workers.

The press of the country has been very coy and comparatively silent upon this granting by Congress of $40,000 per mile to the Texas Pacific Railroad corporation, which, as the line is three thousand miles long, will amount to the sum of $120,000,000, which our legislators grant to monopolists and railroad rings. But if $1,000,000,000 should be granted by government to the workers, in order to purchase workshops and raw materials, which would remain as a security to the government for the money advanced—the capitalistic press would howl with indignation from one end of the land to the other.

Thurman, in his place in the U. S. Senate said: "Two great railroad companies owe the United States $64,000,000 for the principal of the bonds loaned to them, and that, as they are now released by a decision of the Supreme Court from paying the interests until the principal becomes due, the whole debt will amount at maturity to $181,000,000," a sum which he seemed to think the railroads would never pay. He stated the present net earnings of the Union Pacific to be $6,143,365, and the Central Pacific to be $8,051,498.

During the war the government could give the furnishing of the army to contractors, but not to the *workers;* they could build up shoddy fortunes for a *selfish plutocracy*, and thus perpetuate a bourgeoisie and establish a plutocracy in a *political* republic. But they could not give employment to the laborers, in order to make free and independent *workers* in an *industrial* republic.

Congress grants $120,000,000 to a single corporation, without asking the consent of the people, for commerce and speculation—which is a tax of $5 per head upon the entire population. The question remains with us as to whether we can educate the people to *demand* of the government the liberty to tax itself five cents per head for the interest and advancement of industry.

That which obtains in the nation obtains equally in the state and the municipality. The building of school-houses, sewers, bridges and improvements of all kinds are conducted in the same way, and are made *political jobs*, to furnish blood to suckers, and meat and food—no drinks, of course!—to political "bummers." They are given to contractors, the tools of politicians; but never to the associated workers.

It will therefore be seen that there is more than enough work to do to make the enterprise a success from the beginning*).

But let it not be supposed that I desire to call in the aid of government or to ask any favors. I believe any aid the government could or might give to the workers would be rather a drawback than an assistance. I merely mentioned what might be done, not what I desired to see done.

I hope to see the people do it themselves, and do it in defiance of the government; they will then be able to appreciate what a nest of fossilized putridity is that conglomeration of imbecility called "the government."

I foresee plainly that there is a principle involved in the organization of industry upon such a basis as we have described, which will not suit the tastes of a great many people, and among that number will be found many of our own members, who believe that they are the best-intentioned people in the world. It is that principle of rigorous justice which will inspire, pervade and control all their actions; it is the establishment of that real equity which will place it beyond the power of any person to speculate upon the labor and necessities of others, and to accumulate a fortune which he will not owe to his own personal merits.

There are many who aspire to fortune, glory and splendor, and yet who boast of being devoted to a republic, because royalty and aristocracy leave them no field for their ambition. Such men are the Vanderbilts, the Oakes Ames, the Astors, the Belknaps, the Babcocks, the Robesons of infamous memory, the crooked whiskey rings, the star-route swindlers, etc. But when they see that there will no longer be room for any classes in the nation, neither moneyed classes nor wealthy classes, nor "blue blood" classes, nor governing classes, that there will be only one class, the working class; that each one will be compelled to work for himself; that he who would possess luxury and wealth, instead of obtaining them by speculation and by the labor of others, can only acquire them by an increase of labor, knowledge and ability on his own part, I fear that many of our members—faithful offsprings of a proud, despotic and selfish state of society—would be unable to elevate themselves to the height of that justice and respect for their fellow beings, which such a state of society would necessarily imply and inaugurate.

But, after all, these difficulties offer no reason why we should not work for a proper organization of industry.

Because there are short-sighted egoists who will be displeased and disappointed, that is no reason why we should be discouraged.

I merely say that we should direct our attention to the subject, redouble our energies and precautions, and hold ourselves bound to assert that no method of organization of the economic forces of the world will eliminate poverty and the crimes which spring therefrom, unless a higher morality is inculcated.

We shall undoubtedly find some among the rich and the bourgeoisie, whose fortunes have been made by the labor of others—for while they worked themselves they were always poor—who will recognize the justice of the proposed organization, and although they might be prompted to oppose it, because it would be in conflict with their momentary interests, they will appreciate and value public justice above their private interests, and assist in the construction of a state of society which, if it destroys them as *insecure bourgeois* will regenerate them as *secure workers*.

But at the same time we must not forget that this industrial question will create for us a greater number of enemies than all other questions of a political nature put together; for although we may find exceptions to the rule, yet, as a class, the bourgeois is avaricious and cruel.

*) These lectures were first delivered as far back as 1869. Since then many instances have occurred to illustrate the truth of what I then advanced, notably the following: When the contract for the Philadelphia Public Buildings was awarded to the contractors in 1872-'73, the amount estimated was about $5,000,000. The contractors had not the capital necessary. The municipal council therefore voted them $17,000 monthly, to be drawn from the public treasury.

My memory may be at fault as to the figures, not as to the facts. The public documents of the period are there to verify the statements.

You may steep them in ignorance, restrict their political liberties, wring from them exorbitant taxes: foment wars and send their sons to be slain in them; just so long as you leave to them the perspective of becoming suddenly rich by cornering markets, by monopolizing money, by Credit Mobilier swindles, by whiskey, corn, coal, pork and cotton rings, by Star Route swindles, by rotten navy contracts or any other means, they are perfectly contented. But, the moment you disturb them in their "vested rights" their selfishness or their interests—which they look upon as being legitimate, and honorably acquired—that very moment you will arouse their opposition, their antagonism and their hatred.

The difficulties which these people will place in our path must be overcome by enlightening them upon our desires and purposes. We shall have to convince these people that our desire is not to take from the rich the wealth which they possess, but by a more intelligent employment of the forces of society to so increase the total production of the world that they will also, and necessarily, obtain a portion of the increased amount of wealth created; that while the tendency of the commercial arrangement of to-day is to make "the rich richer, and the poor poorer," the tendency of the industrial organization of the future will be to make richer both the poor *and* the rich. We shall have to prove, I repeat, that our desire to make the rich richer, is not a vain word.

In order to convince them of the possibility of this seeming impossibility, we shall be held to a complete demonstration, in order that the third axiom be accepted, which we put forth in Lecture No. 1, viz., that "the productive capacity of society is superior to the consumptive capacity of society."

That demonstration will be made complete at its proper time and place, after we have treated the question of machinery and the natural forces. We may, however, say at this point that the labor force which is wasted through enforced idleness and other avoidable causes, may be safely put down to be one-fifth, or twenty per cent, of the total amount of the labor forces of the world. Many have estimated it at four hundred per cent. Between these two estimates there may be some difficulty in arriving at correctness. To merely mention the subject gives us a sufficient appreciation of its importance.

If the difficulties which we find in our path are such as are inherent within ourselves, that is to say, a part of our nature, it will be equally necessary to surmount them.

The social environment amid which we have grown, been educated and have lived, has been based upon the principle of individualism, and consequently, has made us all, more or less, selfish and *egoists*. But with more entightened views of *altruism* we shall arise to the complete conception of solidarity; by the aid of which we shall intellectually perceive that the interests and responsibilities of others are so completely interwoven and identical with our own interests and responsibilities, that we shall study with pleasure to give practical expression, through our actions, of our intellectual conceptions and convictions, by making the idea of duty paramount to the idea of rights.

This will be a process of self-instruction, mental discipline and mutual teaching, which, as it grows upon us, will become an intellectual pleasure to all, and will work in conjunction with the exercise and development of the moral sentiments.

This, as a matter of course, will be the result of a process of education, which it will be necessary to establish among ourselves, and by ourselves, for, be it remembered, that *without education as a foundation, no intelligent social superstructure is possible.*

The third kind of difficulties to which I referred, were called difficulties of our own creating. Under that head I would place the disappointments and failures which we shall experience from the short-sighted folly and ambition of our own members, who will be proud and vain; who will want to rule; who will desire to see their names in print as presidents, secretaries, treasurers, directors, trustees, &c., &c. In a word, men who are ambitious and who desire to become *leaders*, and who, if they cannot rule will certainly ruin. These men, in our weekly and monthly meetings, and at moments of election of officers, will raise points of discussion, rise to points of order, &c., appeal to parliamentary usages, congressional examples, and other stupidities which legislative bodies have formulated into rules of conduct, and end by dividing the great body of the members into supporters of various ideas and opposite sides, into cliques and rings and factions; and when such men have divided the society into cliques, factions and rings, they will then be able to "carry their point," as they call it. The organization will suffer, and the hopes of the workers for relief from their poverty will be again crushed, at they have been crushed before, thousands of times, by the same causes.

Do not think I speak lightly or without cause. The incompetent and the designing *alone* aspire to be *leaders*. I appeal for confirmation to the experience of every honest worker who has sought relief in organization, and I say that if we have, from the outside, to contend against the rings, cliques and monopolists, the bourgeoisie, the Belknaps, Babcocks, Dorseys, and political tricksters; we have to contend, from the inside, against the designing and the tricksters in our own ranks. And I maintain that our enemies on the inside are equally as powerful for evil as our enemies on the outside.

Therefore, precaution is of pre-eminent necessity, and if we are weak enough to hide the faults, delinquencies and heartless cruelties of our destroyers, we, ourselves, become guilty accessories to the fact, and commit an act of self-destruction.

I regret that I have not time here to exemplify the difference between the two opposite ideas—selection and election.

Selection presuposes the choosing of the fittest to perform the function—the putting him there.

Election implies the obtaining of the function by not always the fittest—frequently the aspiring and the unscrupulous—the getting himself there.

A vast difference both in methods and in results is to be found in this principle of selection as opposed to election.

Election in the germ of all that has resulted in political corruption, which has already nearly disrupted the republican institutions of the United States; and which, if continued, will totally subvert, both liberty and morality. It is that which the opponents of popular freedom point to as "the failure of democracies."

It is a question of the greatest simplicity and at the same time of the uttermost importance.

Let us hope that when we find intelligent, capable and devoted men, who perform their functions with dignity and fidelity, we shall not be so stupid as to change our functionaries at every election, and, at the same time, that we shall work to so simplify the function that each of our members may be capable of performing the duties appertaining to the function, whenever, by lot, it may fall to his turn to fulfil any function.

I have now presented a too meagre outline of the basis of the polity of the labor movement. I will treat every subject, Land, Labor, Capital, Exchange and Insurance in a separate essay and there enter into details more fully. Before proceeding to fill in its details, however, it will be well to give an outline of the philosophy of the labor movement. It will be remembered that we started out with the idea of presenting the labor movement in its trinitary aspect—its polity, its philosophy and its religion.

As we have decided to adjourn our meetings until the hot season is passed, we will resume our labors at our next meeting, the date of which we shall all learn from our respected and faithful secretary.

DRURY.

BOSTON CARPENTERS IN MASS MEETING.

The public meeting held on March 3, under the auspices of the Carpenters and Joiners' Union, No. 33, at Caledonian Hall, was largely attended. President W. J. Shields, after calling the meeting to order, stated in a brief manner its object. The principal speaker of the evening was Geo. E. McNeil, and the remarks, which were confined to the laboring class, were very interesting. Other addresses of the same tenor were made by C. P. Harrington, president of the Central Trades, and John Cronin, president of the Marble Workers' Union. This society, which has a large membership, is at present advocating a reduction of working hours from ten to eight hours per day. At the close of the meeting a large number of those present joined the union, which makes the membership over 400. The next public meeting of the union will be held April 7, at the same hall, when P. J. McGuire, General Secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of the United States and Canada, will address the meeting.—*Boston Herald.*

Der Carpenter.

New York, April 1884.

Die Lage des Handwerkers.

Immer mehr drängt sich selbstständig denken könnenden Meistern und Gesellen der Gedanke auf, daß das Bestreben, das Handwerk zu retten, heute geradezu aussichtslos ist und daß alle Anstrengungen des gesammten arbeitenden Volkes darauf gerichtet werden müssen, den großindustriellen Betrieb, der den Ruin des Handwerks bedingt, den Händen der verhältnißmäßig wenigen Privaten zu entwinden und dessen Vortheile durch eine der Neuzeit angepaßte Organisation der Arbeit allen Arbeitswilligen zuzuwenden.

Oder kann es so fortgehen? Gebt Euch Antwort, Meister und Gesellen! Wo ist sonst Hoffnung auf Rettung vorhanden? Wohl nirgends. Mit dem goldenen Boden des Handwerks ist es vorbei, die Selbstständigkeit des Meisters ist wohl bei den meisten Handwerkern einer Abhängigkeit vom Rohmaterial-Lieferanten, vom Gelddarleiher und vom besseren Kunden gewichen. Einzelne, die vor Jahren im Stande waren, den günstigen Geschäftsgang auszunutzen oder mit Erbschaften beglückt wurden, leben in angenehmen Verhältnissen, der größte Theil der Handwerker ist aber schon so weit, daß er falliren müßte, wenn er binnen kurzer Zeit seinen Verpflichtungen nachzukommen gezwungen wäre. Woher kommt das wohl?

Es ist bei Arbeitern wie Kleinmeistern eine allgemeine Klage, daß die immer allgemeiner angewandte Maschinenarbeit die Grundursache der sogen. schlechten Zeit, der Arbeitslosigkeit und des für die Kleinmeister drohenden Ruins sei. Wir haben nicht selten von Kleinmeistern und nicht sozialistischen Arbeitern die Ansicht aussprechen hören, man sollte alle Maschinen zusammenschlagen. Der guten Leute giebt es genug, die da glauben, durch Zerstörung der modernen Arbeitswerkzeuge (Maschinen) eine Rückkehr zur „goldenen Zeit" der Handarbeit und der Zünfte zu ermöglichen. Wenn diese Ansicht auch eine durchaus verkehrte ist, so ist dieselbe doch für die Unzufriedenheit, welche unter den Massen herrscht, sehr bezeichnend und sollte demnach für die herrschenden ein Sporn sein, die mißlichen Folgen der Maschinenarbeit durch Verstaatlichung der Betriebe zu beseitigen, und dadurch die Vortheile der Maschinenarbeit allen Arbeitswilligen zu sichern. Bei dem jetzigen System sind fürchterliche Katastrophen nicht zu vermeiden.

Was nützt es, daß die Handwerker klagen, daß sie kaum existiren könnten? Nichts! Umsonst rufen sie nach Schutzzöllen. Solche werden in der Folge bewirken, daß sich das Großkapital auch im Inlande auf fabrikgemäße Herstellung von Gegenständen wirft, die heute noch zum großen Theile von Handwerkern hergestellt werden. Daß die Hebung der gewerblichen Bildung das Grundübel, die Ueberlegenheit des Großbetriebes und das Unvermögen unserer Handwerker, die zur Anhandnahme desselben nothwendigen Mittel aufzubringen, nicht hebt, haben wir in der Einleitung nachgewiesen.

Die Technik arbeitet trotz allen Klagen der Meister und Handwerker über die verderbliche Konkurrenz der mechanischen Arbeit rastlos an der Erfindung von neuen, Arbeit sparender Maschinen oder an Verbesserungen zu schon bestehenden Maschinen. Was kümmert's den Fabrikanten, Techniker ꝛc., wenn durch die Einführung neuer Maschinen eine größere Anzahl Arbeiter arbeitslos, eine Menge Handwerksmeister bankrott und in's Elend gestoßen werden? Sehr wenig. Sein Bestreben ist: „Möglichst billige Arbeitskraft zu schaffen" und die schafft er durch Einführung neuer und Verbesserung alter Maschinen in zweifacher Beziehung: Einmal durch die wohlfeilere Maschinenarbeit und dann durch Vermehrung der Zahl arbeitsloser Arbeiter (Reservearmee), welche Vermehrung die Arbeite mürber, zu Lohnreduktionen geeigneter macht.

Die Fabrikanten haben also ein Interesse daran, immer mehr neue Maschinen einzuführen, namentlich wenn sie nur an den momentanen Vortheil denken. Für die erdrückende Mehrzahl der Bevölkerung ist aber die rücksichtslose Einführung und Anwendung von Maschinerie von weittragendem Nachtheil. Sie muß die Geschäftsstockung, die sogen. schlechte Zeit. zu einer permanenten, d. h. fortwährenden machen und weil sie auch fortwährend den Uebergang vom kleineren zum Großbetrieb befördert und beschleunigt, den Mittelstand vernichten. Je mehr Maschinen eingeführt werden, desto zahlreicher werden die Arbeitslosen, desto geringer der Lohn, weil die Arbeitslosen den Beschäftigten in den Lohnforderungen bedeutende Konkurrenz machen. Je geringer der Lohn, desto schwächer auch die Kaufskraft der Massen, desto geringer der Absatz für Verkäufer und Fabrikanten. Je rücksichtsloser die Maschinenarbeit ausgenutzt und angewandt wird, desto allgemeiner die Arbeitslosigkeit und Massenverarmung, desto größer das Elend und die Verzweiflung der Massen, die Zahl der Lasterhaften und Verbrecher, desto größer aber auch die Gefahr eines verheerenden Verzweiflungsausbruches der an den Abgrund des Verhungerns Gedrängten. Die bisher geübte Rücksichtslosigkeit hat also auch ihre Gefahren für die Fabrikanten und zwar nicht nur wegen der Verzweiflung der Massen, sondern weil nach Vernichtung der Kleinmeister der Kampf der großen Fabrikanten gegen die kleinen ein vernichtender werden muß, so daß schließlich nur einige wenige große Fabrikanten, welche ihre Branche monopolisirt, bestehen werden.

Doch nicht zu den Großfabrikanten sprechen wir, denn wir wissen, daß sie unseren Vernunftgründen kein Gehör schenken. Einer wird vom Andern zur höchst möglichen Leistung angespornt, Einer sucht den Andern zu überbieten — das ist ehernes Muß, bedingt durch das kapitalistische Produktionssystem.

Die Kleingewerbtreibenden aber sollten bei einigem Nachdenken aus dem Obigen ersehen können, wo das Grundübel steckt: in dem kapitalistischen Besitz der Arbeitsmittel, welcher dazu dient, die Nichts- wie die Wenigbesitzenden (den Mittelstand) auszubeuten und zu ruiniren. Haben sie aber die Grundursache des Uebels eingesehen, dann sollten sie auch nicht davor zurückschrecken, Hand in Hand mit der fortgeschrittenen Arbeiterschaft die Vergesellschaftlichung (Verstaatlichung) der Arbeitsmittel (Maschinen, Fabriken, Verkehrswege, Grund und Boden u. s. w.) anzustreben, da, solange diese Forderung nicht erfüllt wird, die Massen immer ärmer werden und die Lage der Kleingewerbtreibenden eine immer traurigere wird, weil dieser ökonomische Druck die Massen zwingt, da zu kaufen, wo die Waaren am billigsten geboten werden und die Verhältnisse sich so zuspitzen werden, daß in verhältnißmäßig kurzer Frist es nur noch ganz Reiche und ganz Arme geben wird.

Ja, nur noch ganz Reiche und ganz Arme! Der Kleinbauer wird ein geschundener Pächter, der Meister ein Fabrikarbeiter und der Fabrikarbeiter ein noch geplagterer Mensch als heute werden, noch öfter arbeitslos, noch um geringeren Lohn sich abquälend, denn die Technik wird nicht ruhen, stets neue mechanische Kräfte zur Ueberflüssigmachung menschlicher Arbeitskraft zu schaffen. Je geringer der Lohn und die Erwerbsfähigkeit, desto geringer die Kaufskraft der Massen, die Absatz- und Fabrikationsmöglichkeit, desto verheerender, andauernder und öfter wiederkehrender die Geschäftsstockungen, die auch den Bauer ruiniren.

Mit den von in alten Bahnen wandelnden Politikern empfohlenen Mittelchen wird das Uebel nicht im Mindesten gehoben, das wird dem Denkenden aus dem Obigen klar geworden sein. Der Hauptfeind des Kleingewerbes wie des Kleinbauern ist der rücksichtslose, mit einer schrankenlosen Konkurrenz verknüpfte Großbetrieb. Zu diesem erfordert es Großkapital und das fehlt den Kleingewerbtreibenden wie den Kleinbauern. Man hat wohl Diesen wie Jenen die private Genossenschaft als Heilmittel anempfohlen, doch ist es klar, daß selbst eine sehr große Anzahl von Kleingewerbtreibenden und Kleinbauern, die verschuldet sind, auch dann kein Großkapital zusammenlegen können, wenn sie zusammenstehen, eine Genossenschaft bilden, denn auch aus vielen ökonomischen Nullen entstehen keine Millionen von Franken, die zum Großbetrieb nothwendig sind.

Da der Großbetrieb aber wirksam nur mit dem Großbetrieb bekämpft werden kann, so ist es geboten, zum Großbetrieb in höchster Potenz, zur genossenschaftlich, staatlich geregelten, demokratisch organisirten Arbeit zu schreiten und die Arbeitsmittel aus dem Privat- in den Gemeinbesitz überzuführen.

Die Pariser Arbeiterzustände.

Aus Paris wird vom 16. März geschrieben: Wie bereits mitgetheilt, haben verschiedene Arbeitergruppen abgelehnt, ihre Ansichten über die Geschäftskrisis vor der Enquetekommission laut werden zu lassen, die meisten aus dem Grunde, daß die Enquete nicht ernst gemeint sei und schon deshalb keinen praktischen Werth für die nothleidenden Arbeiter habe. Die zu dieser Kategorie gehörigen Kleinmechaniker — darunter die mit der Herstellung telegraphischer Instrumente beschäftigten — entschlossen sich aber, wenigstens ein Schreiben an den Präsidenten der Kommission zu richten, das denn auch verlesen wurde. Die Unterzeichner schildern die Arbeitslosigkeit als beträchtlich, klagen über die niedrigen Löhne und meinen, die Lage der arbeitenden Klasse sei nur durch eine radikale Umgestaltung der gegenwärtigen gesellschaftlichen Zustände und Gesetze zu verbessern. Die Kommission hörte darauf die Arbeiterdelegirten der Maurer; die Werkführer waren speziell vertreten. Diese letzteren erklärten, 275 bis 350 Fr. monatlich zu verdienen. Der mittlere Verdienst sei jedoch nur 325 Fr. Vor der Reise seien die Werkführer, je nach der auf ihnen lastenden Verantwortlichkeit, mit 300 bis 400 Fr. monatlich bezahlt worden. Alljährlich hätten sie während vier Monaten keine Beschäftigung; die gänzliche Arbeitslosigkeit erstrecke sich jetzt auf zwei Drittel der Arbeiter. Die Krise sei der Ueberproduktion an Wohnhäusern und der Nothstand unter den Arbeitern theilweise auch dem zu großen Andrang von fremden Kräften zuzuschreiben. Die Delegirten verlangten gesetzliche Anordnungen, wonach die Prinzipale höchstens nur ein Zehntel fremde Arbeiter beschäftigen dürften. Die Arbeitervertreter der „Syndikatskammer der Maurer des Seine-Departements", welche sich sodann vernehmen ließen, beschwerten sich insbesondere über das Treiben der Baugesellschaften, die die Löhne herabdrückten, die Arbeiter förmlich ausbeuteten und, wenn ihre Spekulation mißlinge, weder ihre Arbeiter noch ihre Lieferanten bezahlten.

Die Delegirten befürworteten die Aufhebung des vom Kaiserreich her datirenden Gesetzes, wonach die nicht bewohnten, resp. nicht vermietheten Häuser steuerfrei sind. Dank diesem Gesetze brauchte sich der Proprietaire nicht zu eilen, seine Localitäten zu vermiethen; er warte ruhig ab, bis er einen Miether zu dem gewünschten Preise findet. Die Vertreter einer Gruppe von Bautischlern („ouvriers à façon") verlangten gleichfalls die Gesetzesform, sowie daß die Tarife für den Import des rohen und façonnirten Holzes schleunigst revidirt würden, da letzteres jetzt den gleichen Eingangszoll wie ersteres bezahlt. Der städtische Arbeitstarif helfe den Akkord-Arbeitern wenig, denn die habgierigen Bauunternehmer fänden immer Mittel, denselben zu umgehen. Die Stadtbehörde solle Arbeiterwohnungen durch Arbeiter-Associationen bauen und die dazu nöthigen Materialien unbesteuert lassen. — In der Kammer brachte Herr Ribot zahlreiche Petitionen gegen das schwebende Projekt über die Erschwerung der Verantwortlichkeit der Prinzipale bei Arbeiterunfällen ein; 2249 Pariser Industrielle, 3016 aus den Departements, 220 Landwirthe, sowie die Handelskammern, landwirthschaftliche Vereine und Fabrikanten-Syndikate protestiren mit ihrer Unterschrift gegen diesen Reformplan.

Allerlei.

— Die New York „Tribune" wird jetzt in allen Theilen des Landes „geboykotted".

— In New England wird mehr Kinderarbeit geliefert, wie irgendwo in den Verein. Staaten.

— Schiffszimmerleute sind ersucht, sich von Saginaw, Mich., fernzuhalten. Der Tagelohn ist dort um 50 Cents heruntergedrückt worden.

— Die Bau-Contractoren von Cleveland versuchten die Neunstunden-Regel der Brickleger-Union daselbst zu beseitigen. Ein Strike war die Folge, und ein Sieg der Brickleger das Ende vom Lied.

— Die Berichte aus allen Theilen des Landes zeigen, daß eine große Anzahl Arbeiter beschäftigungslos ist. Wenn die Arbeitszeit nicht verkürzt wird, werden sich diese Perioden wiederholen.

— Pflasterer in St. Louis haben ihren Lohn um 10 Prozent erhöht. Die Arbeitgeber bewilligten die Forderung ohne Weiteres, da sie Unannehmlichkeiten bei der Eröffnung der Bausaison zu vermeiden wünschen.

— Die Carpenters in Denver, Col., haben die Constitution der Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of Amerika adoptirt. Die Leute haben einen starken Verein und werden, wenn das Frühjahrsgeschäft beginnt, gut organisirt sein.

— Der Strike der Cigarrenmacher gegen die Firma Straiton & Storm dauert fort. Kein Arbeiter sollte Cigarren kaufen, welche bei dieser Firma gemacht wurden und keiner sollte in einem Store etwas kaufen, wo solche Cigarren gehalten werden.

— Es ist Aussicht vorhanden, daß die Legislatur von Ohio die Gefängniß-Contract-Arbeit gesetzlich aufheben wird. In Louisville haben 7000 Arbeiter eine Petition unterzeichnet, welche die Durchführung dieser Maßregel auch in Kentucky verlangt.

— Im Ganzen haben im Jahre 1883 18 Strikes in der Stadt New York stattgefunden, an welchen 44,930 Mann betheiligt waren. Zehn von diesen Strikes waren erfolgreich, einer theilweise erfolgreich, fünf gingen verloren und zwei sind noch unentschieden. Die Baugewerke allein haben in dieser Stadt, wenn man die gewonnene Lohnerhöhung nur auf 25 Cents per Tag durchschnittlich veranschlagt, nahe an 2½ Millionen Dollors mehr an Lohn erhalten. Wer wird sagen, daß dies ohne Organisation jemals hätte erreicht werden können?

— Würden die Löhne der Arbeiter verdoppelt, so würde deren Kaufkraft steigen und dadurch eine vermehrte Nachfrage nach allen Produkten entstehen. Die Arbeiter wären dann im Stande, ohne ihre Einnahmen zu verringern, einen großen Theil ihrer Zeit auf ihre Ausbildung und Unterhaltung zu verwenden. Wo immer die Löhne hoch sind und wenigen Veränderungen unterworfen, sind die Arbeiter thätig, gebildet und geschickt, sie wissen ihre freie Zeit zu benutzen und wären nur zu tadeln, falls sie dies nicht thäten.

— Die stete Vermehrung der arbeitsparenden Maschinen verlangt gebieterisch eine Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit, einmal um die periodischen Krisen zu verhindern, welche durch Ueberproduktion (oder richtiger Unterkonsumtion) entstehen und gleich schädlich für Kapital und Arbeit sind, und dann auch, um dem Arbeiter einen Theil der Erleichterung zukommen zu lassen, welche die von ihm erfundenen Maschinen der Menschheit gewähren. Durch eine solche Reform würde die Arbeit mehr vertheilt werden. Mit Hülfe der Maschine kann jetzt ein einzelner Mann mehr fabriziren als früher eine ganze Anzahl Arbeiter und das Resultat ist, daß fortwährend ein großer Theil kräftiger Männer außer Arbeit ist und von den beschäftigten mit erhalten werden muß. Eine Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit würde Allen Gelegenheit geben, Arbeit und Brod zu finden.

— Es ist erst sieben Monate her, seit die Kohlengräber von Iowa sich zu organisiren begannen; während der ganzen Zeit unterhielten sie eine kräftige Bewegung zu Gunsten der Vereinigung aller Kohlengräber, sowohl politisch als industriell. Das Resultat ist, daß der Gouverneur von Iowa eine Botschaft an die Legislatur sandte zum Besten der Arbeiter in den Bergwerken, worin er Minen-Ventilation und andere Maßnahmen zum Schutz von Leben und Gesundheit der Arbeiter befürwortet. Ein Komite für Minen und Minenbetrieb wurde in beiden Häusern der Gesetzgebung ernannt, zum ersten Mal in der Geschichte des Staates, und die Representanten der Minen-Distrikte erklären die vorliegenden Bills unterstützen zu wollen. Und alles dies aus keinem andern Grund, als weil 6170 Kohlengräber im Staate Iowa sich organisirt haben.

Was a flo[illegible] eine gute Organisation zu leisten vermag, das hat die Glasbläser Association bewiesen. Diese Organisation hat den vereinigten Anstrengungen der Kapitalisten, sie zusammenzubrechen, sieben Monate lang widerstanden und ist siegreich aus dem Kampf hervorgegangen. Diese Arbeiter haben ihre Union erhalten und haben eine Lohnreduction von 10 bis 20 Prozent abgewehrt. Sie waren entschlossen, lieber alle Schrecken dieses harten Winters zu ertragen, als nachzugeben, was sowohl die Bewunderuug ihrer Freunde als ihrer Feinde erregte. Diese Organisation umschließt jeden Arbeiter des Gewerkes in diesem Lande und steht in enger Verbindug mit ihren Collegen in europäischen Ländern. Sie führt eine so genaue Statistik, daß sie über den durchschnittlichen Verbrauch an Glas, über den vorhandenen Vorrath, über den Bedarf sowie über die vorhandenen Arbeitskräfte fortwährend auf's Genaueste unterrichtet ist. Sie zwingt die Fabrikanten von Zeit zu Zeit, die Löhne zwischen beiden Theilen für einen bestimmten Termin für die ganze Organisation zu vereinbaren, die Länge der Arbeitszeit zu bestimmen u. s. w. und diese Vereinbarungen auch zu halten. Der Versuch, diese Vereinbarungen zu brechen, gab Veranlassung zu dem letzten Strike. Jedes Mitglied der Organisation fügt sich gern den gemeinsamen Beschlüssen und Anordnungen, weil es weiß, daß sein Interesse so am besten befördert wird. Während des Strikes wurden neun Cooperativ-Glas-Fabriken von den Arbeitern und fünf mit Hülfe von Kapitalisten errichtet. Es ist eine bemerkenswerthe Thatsache, daß alle diese Arbeiter in der Regel nüchtern und von festem Benehmen sind. Wenn die Arbeiter aller Industriebranches in diesem Lande so gründlich organisirt wären, dann wären die Tage des räuberischen kapitalistischen Betriebs gezählt.

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DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

EDWARD DONEGAN, a member in good standing of San Francisco Union, No. 22, died February 19, aged 40, of pulmonary consumption. Assessment No. 15.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Morris, Minn.

Trade dull; prospects for Spring and Summer fair. A $10,000 school house was voted last month to be erected the coming Spring.

Hamilton, Canada.

I believe that we have begun to work on the Building League in Hamilton with the Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, at first by committees from both, and we hope to hear something about it by our next meeting. I hope we can get it to work, as it is much needed here.

Victoria, British Columbia.

Our union still keeps flourishing; 10 new members were initiated at our last meeting and several initiations pour in every week. Trade has been very dull, and in fact almost every place of business shut down on account of the very severe weather. Wages from $2.50 to $3.50 per day of 10 hours.

Chicago, Ill.

The prevailing spirit here seems more strongly in favor of a movement for a reduction of the hours of labor, rather than for an increase in wages. The Trades and Labor Assembly of this city has interested itself in the formation of the Building League. And as the Bricklayers and the Stone Cutters have signified their willingness, its establishment in the near future is assured.

Maysville, Ky.

We are going to try and organize a Carpenters' Union in Maysville. The prospects for work the coming season are very encouraging, and unless we can get up something to protect good mechanics from being imposed upon by what is now known as saw and hatchet scabs, we will suffer, as this town at present is overrun with that class of mechanics. We have at present the names of 15 good men.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

The mills are all shut down and w[illegible] scarce. Trade is very dull yet, and but little [illegible] of much doing before April. Our union is increasing in membership. We held an open meeting last month, which was largely attended, and quite a number were proposed for membership. There are more idle men here at present than there has been for years. However, we trust that when Spring opens, there will be work for all.

Buffalo, N. Y.

As regards our trade here the outlook is very fair and encouraging; the architects are busy and we have a promise of a busy summer this year. Wages range from $2 to $2.50. We have not been very busy this Winter on account of the severity of the weather; a good deal of work had to stop on that account. There is quite a bustle among Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers for an advance of 50 cents per day in the near future, which will bring up their present rate to $3.50 per day, while the carpenters are plodding away contented with mere crumbs and seem to want not even that.

St. Catherines, Canada.

We are beginning to feel the drain the Endowment makes on us with dues at thirty cents per month, and some think that the death benefit should be lowered and the disability benefit raised. Trade is still very slack, wages 20 cents per hour; many of our members are away at work in Port Colborne. Our union hold its own very well. We have formed a Trades and Labor Council for this city (not confined to the Building Trades), with the Seamen's Union, Cigarmakers, Masons and Bricklayers' Union, Joiners' Union and Knights of Labor, and will now make a move to organize every trade in the city.

Toledo, Ohio.

Our flood has not come yet, but the prospects are just as good now as ever; all we want is some warm weather, and it is sure to come. Work is still the same as at last report; the weather is very bad, but the prospects for work, when it does open, are getting better every day. During January and February of this year there were 51 building permits issued, and for the same time last year 14, so you can see there is some improvement. Union No. 25 is doing very well, and we expect a large increase in membership as soon as men get to work and get some money.

Cincinnati, O.

Union No. 2, in connection with Union No. 52, of Covington, Ky., held a successful mass-meeting Sunday, March 16, at Eclipse Hall, Newport, Ky., with the intention of organizing a union there. Union No. 2 also held a mass-meeting for all carpenters, Sunday, March 30, at Arbeiter Hall, for the feasibility of agitating a more united stand on wages this Summer. Some bosses are cutting wages down to $2.25 per day.

New Orleans, La.

Business is beginning. The Centennial buildings began March 17; they are offering $2.75 per day, we are all holding off for more money; plenty buildings to be put up. All the bosses have plenty of work. Since the organization of the Mechanics' Trades Council our union has increased very rapidly, and we have out several applications for next meeting. We have changed our time of meeting to the first and third Monday, at 7.30 P. M. The city is full of strange carpenters. Bros. Bates and McKinley are both well. Plenty small pox; living, high; weather getting warm; river very high here; rent way up.

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, MAY, 1884. NUMBER 5.

NEW YORK STIRRED UP.

This city has been thoroughly stirred in labor matters, from centre to circumference the past month. With parades and mass meetings, one after the other, in quick succession, the labor question has become the topic of discussion more than ever. First the great Eight-Hour demonstration in Union Square, with 40,000 persons present, and over 15,000 men in line; then the Printers' parade and mass meeting against the N. Y. *Tribune*. And after that the Butchers and the Dry Goods Clerks, each had their parade and mass meeting. To crown all, the Central Labor Union gave a public reception to Henry George in Cooper Union on April 29, which was complete success.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

We have been 21 days on strike, and now the strike is ended. The strike was ordered by the Building Trades Council, known as the "Mechanics' Council." It was to establish a standard rate of wages in each trade and to not work with non-union men. The result is very successful in the most instances, and has given Union No. 16 a good name for holding firm. In a financial way the strike will help our union considerably. We are now endeavoring to establish a branch of Creoles down town. Plenty of work; city healthy; wages fair; rent high; cost of living high. Only one member sick.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

The organized workingmen of this city have resolved to boycott the *Daily Courier* and *Evening Republic* as "rat" sheets. The attitude of the *Courier*, and the introduction of Italians and Hungarians to fill the places of the striking longshoremen has aroused all the fever of righteous indignation left in this community. And to express it a monster street parade and meeting was held on April 23. Over 15,000 persons participated, and speeches were made by prominent labor men. A letter was read from General Benjamin F. Butler, in which he shows a very poor knowledge of political economy when he says strikes are no great loss to the capitalists. But it is very likely this labor movement will teach him and others like him a few very essential lessons in political econmy from the workman's standpoint.

Trade in the building line is getting better, and there is now more disposition among the carpenters to organize. If the carpenters of Buffalo don't wake up very soon, we shall be worse paid than laborers. Now is the time to be stirring ourselves, as the bricklayers have established $3.50 a day since the first of April. Just look what union is doing for them; if they were not strongly organized, they would just be at the bottom of the ladder the same as the poor carpenters.

LATEST FROM GUELPH.

The carpenter bosses of Guelph Canada, seem disposed to refuse the demand of the union men for $2 per day—last season's rates. R. Stewart, boss of the sash and door factory is the main obstacle; he believes in cheap labor and won't hire a union man if he knows it. State of trade is fair, a few scabs are going around offering to work for $1.50 per day. One in particular we will publish next month, as he claims to be a union man, but in reality has no connection with us at all.

CHIPS.

—Washington Union No. 1 will pay a fraternal visit this month to Baltimore Union No. 29.

—A general strike of all union carpenters is threatened in Chicago unless the bosses agree to hire none but union men.

—A meeting of the labor unions of Ohio will be held in Columbus, Ohio, on June 24, to form a State Labor union.

—Carpenters in Halifax, Nova Scotia, are moving to secure an advance of 25 cents per day in wages with good prospects of success.

—The strike of Portland Union No. 50 for nine hours, to begin May 1, has been postponed until a more favorable opportunity.

—The carpenters of Dallas, Texas, are forming a union with the assistance of the Dallas *Tocsin*, a sprightly labor journal of that city.

—Los Angelos, Cal., starts with 112 members; Omaha, Neb., with 83; Savannah, Ga., with 52. And so the good work goes on.

—Kansas City, Mo., is flooded with workmen. Carpenters are only getting about $2.25 per day, painters $2, plasterers $3 and $3.25.

—Carpenters' Union No. 29, of Baltimore, and the Knights of Labor of that city are working together on the most friendly terms and are exchanging working cards.

—Under the new Factory and Workshop Act of Ohio an Inspector has been appointed. Henry Dorn, a devoted union man, the choice of the Cleveland Trades Assembly, was selected.

—Let every local union in the Brotherhood take up our constitution and laws, discuss them point by point, and send in their suggestions for changes or amendments to this office. Don't wait too long; act at once.

—Bro. R. Stephens, Oakland, Cal., our fourth Vice-President, has been very instrumental in organizing the new union in Los Angelos. He writes that very soon he will have two or three more unions organized in California.

—At an early date the Bricklayers' Union of Philadelphia will break ground for a trades union building; they have a large fund for the purpose of erecting a hall that will be a credit to them.

—The Carpenter's Union of St. Louis is on the basis of 50 cents monthly dues and $1 initiation fee. After May 1, the initiation fee will be $5. The sick benefit will be $5 per week; there are about 80 members. The lowest rate of wages was fixed at $3 per day for this season.

—Through the perseverance and energy of the Legislative Committee of the New Jersey State Federation of Trades, the Prison Labor Bill has passed the Legislature of that State, and thus another State is added to the roll of those opposed to prison contracts.

—"The United Order of American Carpenters" of this City have played their old game of proclaiming a strike this spring for $3.50 per day, and then after calling out the men they close down the strike in a day, and provide jobs for such union men as do not get $3.50 per day from these bosses. This is the third season that they have demanded "an advance" to $3.50 per day, yet every Winter they lose it again.

STRIKE AGAINST SCABS.

The following is republished by request: Each local union should be cautious in its action. Before we make demands we should first be thoroughly organized. Let us first get every man we can voluntarily to join the union, and then on job after job, wherever we are strong enough, let us strike against the scabs. If men will not willingly see their own interests we must make them see it. They must either join the union or else we will not work with them. That is the rule now adopted in the building trades of New York, and it works well. Union men cannot associate daily with scabs without suffering moral contamination and pecuniary injury. Some men are craven enough to keep out of a union for fear of the "bosses;" but wherever union men have refused to work with non-union men, it is wonderful what an influence the "boss" has had in changing the minds of the non-union men, by telling them that they must either join the union or be discharged. Some will claim this is tyrannic and coercive, nevertheless the same coercion is practiced by all interests to-day for their own self protection. The man who allows others to labor in his behalf, to advance his wages and improve his conditions in life, and stands by rendering no assistance, but on the contrary counteracting all this good, is one who is a moral pestilence to all his fellows and should be suppressed at all hazards. Union men can never hope to uphold their organizations and demands, unless they enlist every man they can get to support their cause. And if there be any who will not go voluntarily, then we must draft them. When we have them with us then our discipline is such that we will make good soldiers of them. Outside of our ranks they are dangerous to us and to our class; with us their power for harm is neutralized. Hence, before we make any further demands upon our employers, let us first strike against scabs!

AN INTERESTING REPORT.

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Report of the Amalgamated Carpenters has been sent us from Manchester, England, by the esteemed General Secretary, J. S. Murchie.

The report opens with the statement that despite the continued depression of trade the past year, 1883 will rank among the most successful years in the society's history. During the year 22 new branches have been opened, and the total number of branches at end of year was 397, with a total membership of 22,837, a net increase of 2,217. The net income was $273,198, and the expenditures $225.799, or $47,398 less than the income. Total property and buildings of the society are valued at $308,088, or about $13 per member.

As benefits the following sums were paid out:

Out of Work	$80,367
Sick	65,308
Funerals	11,785
Superannuation	7,400
Trade Privileges	6,260
Accidents	5,750
Tool Insurance	5,697
Benevolent Grants	3,827
Grants to other Trades	485
Total Benefits	$186,879

Under the head of trade privileges is included strike pay, law expenses, conciliation and arbitration expenses, and the cost of managing trade movements, so that scarcily more than 3 per cent. of the expenditures have been for strikes. The General Secretary commends to the Society a paragraph from the Trades Union Congress Report for 1882-83 that "the measure of value of a strong society lies not so much in the conduct of successful strikes, as it does in the number of disputes *its moral strength prevents*."

During the year 1883, the society has paid 18 accident benefits, ranging from $250 to $500, according to degree of injuries.

The number of deaths are 161 men and 129 women (wifes of members). The majority of deaths occurred from consumption, bronchitis, pneumonia, and pulmonary diseases, the average age at time of death being 39½ years for men and 39 years for women, an increase in longevity since the formation of the society, of 3 years for men and 5½ years for the women.

The report is a very valuable document and gives the full data of each branch, and shows a flourishing state of affairs for the society. We extend our older sister society our best wishes and feel proud of its prosperity, and hope it may long continue.

TRADE NOTES.

—The Bricklayers and Masons of Portland, Oregon, have struck several jobs against non-union men.

—Stay away from Denver, Col.; there is an overstock of carpenters there and wages are at mush and molasses rates.

—The carpenters of Troy, N. Y., have won their strike for eight hours as a day's work on Saturday and against working with non-union men.

—The Trenton *Sunday Advertiser* has increased its size 250 per cent. since its first appearance in Jan., 1883. This is an unprecedented success for a labor paper.

—The carpenters of New Haven, Conn., are not thoroughly organized, and the result is that men are working for whatever the bosses condescend to pay them.

—San Francisco *Truth* will hereafter appear as a first-class monthly magazine, 100 pages. The ablest labor writers have been secured as contributors to its columns.

—An exchange says: It was due to the energy of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad that the six labor bills recently before the Maryland Legislature were defeated.

—This is the thirteenth week of the Fall River strike, with no sign of settlement. Some of the mills are doing their best to run, but it has been a losing business so far.

—Thos. C. Weeks, of Baltimore, an active worker in the labor movement, has been appointed chief of the Maryland Labor Bureau, while in Congress the bill for a National Labor Bureau has passed the House.

—The advertisement of the Derby Bit Co. has been discontinued in our columns, owing to a serious disaster to their factory which has nearly destroyed their works and prevents them from supplying orders.

—Building trade in Columbus is very promising. Over 1000 residences, cottages, etc., have been contracted for to be erected this season. A few of our friends are busy attempting to form a union, as the men are working for miserable wages.

—Seven hundred carpenters in [illegible] Orleans are on strike for $3 a day [illegible] have been out nearly a [illegible] is also against non- [illegible] building [illegible] and se[illegible]

THE CARPENTER.

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NEW YORK, MAY, 1884.

A CARPENTER'S RHYME.

You chips of Philadelphia, come, gather once again,
And prepare for active service, for business we do mean;
Too long have tyrants held us beneath their iron's way,
And cowardly they have treated us in an unrelenting way,
But if you join the union, then soon you will regain
Your long lost rights and prices from oppression's iron chain.

Yes, come and be united, and rally once again,
To boycott jerry builders and all non-union men;
Come, leave your scab companions, your rights for to maintai
Every motive that should stimulate; brave boys, urge on your claim;
You have got the men to aid you, our interest they have at heart,
Ther's James Orrick and John Allen, likewise Bill Eberhardt.

Now, let us come together and do the best we can
To convince the boys of shavings that they should be union men.
Some will give us trouble and want to be excused,
Some are out all Winter, others want a pair of shoes;
Yet I note they spend the money Forepaugh's elephant to see,
If they be so poor how they spare—that is a mystery to me.

There is one I would like to mention, a mean, dirty little pill,
He is working for a living at a place called Chestnut Hill;
The circulár for eight hours with disgust he did destroy,
He is an over previous man, and his name is John McCoy;
And one more we will mention and this Summer do up Brown,
Let us call him Mr. Four eyes, and he hails from Norristown.

I could speak of many others, who have fell back to the rear,
And now that duty calls them, they fail to appear.
Why sneak behind the banner, boys, and cast freedom thus away?
If you will but consider, you will find eight hours will bring more pay.

Now that work will soon be booming, let each man be staunch and true,
For actions are the test through life, hope will not pull you through,
For the world is made up of good and bad, the honest and deceiving,
Few real, many counterfeits, and I think seeing is believing.

TRIANGLE.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ILLINOIS LABOR CONVENTIO

The Illinois Trade and Labor Conventioon, in session at Chicago, took ground in favor of the abolition of prison contract labor; enactment of an eight-hour law; prevention of teaching children trades except in industrial schools; for the prevention of monopolies in land by foreigners; favoring compulsory legislation for the better regulation of railroads; for boards of arbitration between employer and employe; making the employer liable for injury or loss of life of employe; weekly payment and the abolishment of the truck system, and the suppression of corners in food products. It was determined to present the platform to the approaching Democratic and Republican Conventions for adoption, and in the event of refusal, then to call a third party convention and nominate an Independent ticket. Otherwise it will meet in Springfield on Feb. 2, 1885. The delegates from Carpenters' Union No. 21 were Bros. L. E. Schneider, Koch, Henderson and McGinley.

[illegible] and do your workmen." asked a [illegible] of a Lancashire mill owner, equally in the [illegible] really live in those [illegible] The building of [illegible] plied the [illegible] they live

ADHESIVE POWER OF NAILS AND SCREWS.

The extensive use to which nails and screws are put in construction lends considerable interest to any records of experience tending to discover their holding power. Haupt, in his "Military Bridges," gives a table of the holding power of wrought-iron 10d nails, 77 to the pound, and about 3 in. long. The nails were driven through a 1-in. board into a block, the board was then dragged in a direction perpendicular to length of the nails. Taking a pine plank nailed to a pine block with eight nails to the square foot, the average breaking weight per nail was found to be 380 pounds. Similar experiments with oak showed the breaking weight to be 415 pounds. With twelve nails to the foot square the holding power was 542½ pounds, and with six nails in pine 463½ pounds. The highest results obtained was for twelve nails to the square foot in pine, the breaking weight being in this case 612 pounds per nail. The average strength decreases with the increase of surface. Tredgold gives the force in pounds required to extract 3d. brads from dry Christiana deal at right angles to the grain of the wood as 58 pounds. The force required to draw a wrought-iron 6d. nail was 187 pounds, the length forced into the wood being one inch. The relative adhesion when driven transversely and longitudinally is, in deal, about two to one. To extract a common 6d. nail from a depth of one inch in dry beech, across grain, required 167 pounds; in dry Christiana deal, across grain, 187 pounds, and with grain, 87 pounds. In elm the force required was 327 pounds across grain, and 257 with grain. In oak the figure given was 507 pounds across grain. From further experiments it would appear that the holding power spike nails in fir is from 460 to 730 pounds per inch in length, while the adhesive power of screws, 2 in. long, 0.22 in. in diameter at the exterior of the threads, twelve to the inch, driven into ½-in. boards, was 790 pounds in hard wood and about one-half that amount in soft wood.

A HINT FROM SENATOR BLAIR.

526 SNYDER AVENUE,
PHILADELPHIA, April 14.

Editor THE CARPENTER,

The testimony taken by the United States Senate Committee on Education and Labor during the last session of Congress, and since its close, fills a report of 1,196 pages octavo, which can be bound in stiff covers at small cost. I prize the copy in my possession and wrote last week to the chairman of the committee for a few more to supply some of the labor leaders here. In reply Senator Blair informs me that there were only a very few copies printed for the use of the committee, and says: "If the trades organizations will petition the Senate for an additional number to be printed, or write their Senators, asking this to be done, it will show a demand for the book, and a large enough number will then be printed to give any one who may wish, a copy." If anything of value to the working people can be gleaned from this report, it should be in their hands.

Fraternally,
W. H. FOSTER.

—Work in Toledo is starting up; wages hold their own. Union No. 25 is doing very well; the sick benefit goes into effect next month, and there are several members liable to lose it if they do not square up, as no one is entitled to sick benefit who is 30 days in arrears.

—The Japanese saw is shaped like a butcher's cleaver, and has a flat handle, which looks as if it might have been whittled out of an inch board, to which it is attached by wrapping tightly with fine split cane. The teeth are very narrow and long, and the sawyer stands on the plank to be sawed, and works with short, rapid, upward strokes.

—A NEW YORK paper quotes Mr. Wm. H. Vanderbilt as saying: "I believe I am the richest man in the world In England the Duke of Westminster is said to be worth $200,000,000, but it is mostly in lands and houses. It does not yield him 2 per cent. A year from now I shall be worth more than $200,000,000, and will have an income equal to 6 per cent, on that amount." According to the same journal Mr. Vanderbilt owns 930,840 shares of railway stock, valued at $88,750,000, his railway bonds amount to $26,857,420, he holds $70,587,000, in other securities—the aggregate wealth of this Midas being $201,332,413. And the snowball rolls.

IN FAVOR OF SHORTER HOURS.

P. J. McGuire, general secretary of Carpenters and Joiners Brotherhood, addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting April 7, at Boston, Mass.; local president W. J. Shield introduced the speaker, who spoke as follows:

"This has been an age of advancement. Chemistry, steam and electricity have been brought into use in manufactures, but they are controlled by a few. All around us are great monopolists. Capital is organized; it controls legislation; it controls the judiciary; it shapes the tone of the public press. This power is more dangerous than the slave power of the South. Capital is in the hands of a few, and there is no appeal to their hearts, but only to their pockets. Now what are the workingmen? All the skill of ages has come from our toil, but what have we received for it? Just enough to keep us from starvation. The workman is worked to his utmost. What hope is there for the old man who cannot work as he did when young? If he is crippled, his wages are ground down to the smallest point. Workmen often suffer from the dishonesty of contractors. In the city of Boston $2.25 per day is enough for carpenters, while negro hod carriers in Washington get $2.50 per day. Organization will help this. If we work together, instead of working against each other, we will be able to help every fair boss in the city. Trades unions do not say that all men shall have the same pay, that there shall be astandard beyond which no man can go. With a fixed standard the fair boss can figure upon a contract with greater confidence, but fair bosses cannot stand against unfair bosses, and unfair bosses are made by unfair men who work for them. Organization is a benefit to all. Professional men, business men and all classes have their organizations. Why should not the laboring men do the same? This question of labor must be met. If we work for day's pay, we should belong to a labor union to protect ourselves; for without organization we are in the hands of speculators and capitalists. It is better to reduce the hours of labor than to increase pay. Make your labor more valuable by making it more scarce. Two great causes of intemperance are poverty and over-work, and the lower wages the less interest men take in their families and the more money they pass over the bar. Aim to lessen the hours of labor. There are two classes of people who desire to bring about a reduction of hours. One of these classes is made up of the politicians, who wish to go to Beacon Hill and get a reduction. The other class say: "Let us do it ourselves." The only way to bring about a decrease of hours of work is for us to refuse to work more than eight hours a day. It can be done only by organization. We need to sink our individuality to some extent for the good of all. Trades unions are beneficial in creating a social feeling, and in aiding those out of work in obtaining employment. Thirty years ago trades unions in Great Britain were illegal, but now they are recognized by Parliament. Don't trust to politics but trust to yourselves. When you are thoroughly organized, you have not only a social but a great political power. We don't want to destroy capital, but we don't want capital to destroy us. We want to organize so that we can get control of some of the capital which we create. The trades' movement is protective as well as benevolent."—The speaker closed by urging the union to make a great but concerted movement toward a reduction of the hours of labor to eight hours on Saturday.—*Boston Globe.*

—Boycotting "rat" papers is the order of the day. Now that the fight against the *Washington Post* has succeeded, the news comes to hand of the surrender of Norman L. Munro, of the *Family Story Paper*, who has made his office a union office. In Zanesville, Ohio, Troy, N. Y., and in Buffalo war is declared against unfair offices, and boycotting sheets have been issued. Meanwhile the fight against the New York *Tribune* continues, and Whitlow Reid has been defeated through it for delegate at large to the Republican National Convention.

Rushville, Ind.

Work is dull. Winter continues and everything waiting for good weather; the bosses are offering $1.50 per day and cursing Union 30. None of our boys are working for less than $ .00. Work is more brisk in our neighboring town of Connersville and wages good so some of our boys hove gone there, and by doing so have begun to knock the scales from the eyes of some of our Vanderbilts, we are cutting their props on every occassion. Where they have a cheap hand we either gather him in or get him a better priced job. We are gaining favor among the monied men of our town, who one year ago foresaw nothing but final dissolution. Some of our contractors are still cutting their own throats and each others by low figures, and then damning the Union for it. Our Union is opposed to the proposed amendments to the Constitution for very good reasons, if any tool benefit is necessary let each L. U. establish its own. We are also opposed to establishing 60c per month as dues, let each Union make its dues enough to cover its expenses, benefits &c. The following is a list of suspended members from Union 39, for non-payment of dues. Jas. Conner, Wm. Moore, Z. F. Smith, Morris Winshiy, Wm. Hecker, Wm. T. Stamen,, John Crowley, Geo. R. Mitchel, O. Stiffler, John B. Hayes.

Oakland, Cal.

We consider the Endowment a most benificint feature of the Order and should receive a cordial support from every member. The amount $250 as now fixed by law is little enough. This is a matter that should appeal to the unselfish feelings of every individual member.

We can receive no benefit from it ourselves, but will in some measure assist those who are dear and near us when we have passed from this life to another, how this fact should appeal to the better part of our nature, and lead us to make a little sacrice for the benefit of the unfortunate.

The outlook in the building line is good, there is every reason to believe at least, from present indications, that a large amount of improvement will be done this season, in this city as well as San Francisco.

The affairs of our Union are in a healthy and prosperous condition, adding new names to our role at each meeting night.

There is still in our midt two or three contractors who are trying to reap a little advantage over the other bosses, by taking advantage of men's neessities by compelling them to work ten hours. They have been able to do this for the past few months, in consequence of business being a little slack, and also from the fact that there has been quite an influx of new men, and naturally enough, or too commonly the case, many of them are strapped after they get here, and "as neccessity knows no law" on striking one of these ten hour gents, they are told they can be accomodoted but it must be ten hours, of course they are only too glad to accept.

I am now prepared to say, that we are in a fair way of putting a quietus on this sort of a thing, and the offending parties will but too soon realize that lightning has struck, and if they survive the shock, it will I fancy be a sort of a conundrum, i. e. who struck "Billy Patterson." We have I think beyond doubt secured the most coveted and substantial of the Plasterers to assist us in this little matter of ours, when that is accomplished, that will settle the ten hours business with these fellows.

A number of our members have organized a "Coperative Building Association" Capital Stock ten thousand dollars, divided into 200 shares at 50 dollars a share, have just got things into working shape, a couple of contracts on hand, and several more pending.

Denver, Col.

At our meeting a week ago we had ten new new propositions and three new members were initiated—I think nearly all our Union men are at work, most of us on small jobs. There are not many large buildings commenced this spring, only small houses and repairs. A good many men have had to go to other places to get work, and some that are here are still idle most of the time. Wages are about the same; average $2.50 per day. I think when men are out of work and wages low, is a good time to catch them. They feel the pressure, have time to study and realize that something should be done. When men are prospering they think each one to himself "well I am all right." If they can only spare the money to join in hard times it brings them around. We are preparing to have a grand Ball here on the 25th of April. The city authorities give us the use of city hall free, it is a large new building centrally located, other Unions and Trades Assembly are helping us to sell tickets and help us out. We have put our tickets down at $1 for Gentleman and Lady, including carriage. If we can make it pan out, we hope to get some money to put in our Treasury. I wish this State was thoroughly organized. While we have no statistics to show I do think this State has about as many workmen in it, to the square mile as any State in the Union. Slaves to the Western Bosses.

A DEFENSE OF HENRY GEORGE.

It would be presumptious to promise a complete defense, in a newspaper article, of those features of "Progress and Poverty," which your correspondent John Ehman refers to. But as he is a truthseeker and not a captious critic, I may be able to assist him.

It is not very material perhaps, but may be worth noting, that it does not follow from Mr. George's defense of profit that he advocates it as a salutary institution. His contention is that profit results from the operation of a natural economic law, just as rent does; that it is an inevitable result of the cooperation of land, labor and capital in production; and that the wrong consists, not in profit itself, but in its inequitable distribution. It is true, he does not advocate the direct nationalization of profit as he advocates the nationalization of rent; but it is a necessary deduction from his whole argument, that the nationalization of rent would compel an equitable distribution of profit. If his argument is sound, nothing more can be asked; if it is unsound, it would be easier to subject capital to public control after rent had been nationalized than before.

Mr. George shows that some forms of capital have an inherent wealth producing power, as the cow with its calf, the horse with its foal, seed which grows while the laborer sleeps, wine which improves with age, and so on. Mr. Ehmann has made the mistake of supposing that Mr. George considers this vital force a factor of production in addition to land, labor and capital. He does not. Each of these forms of capital is in modern industry a labor product, and while it increases in value without labor, its increase is due to the labor which gave to it its form. Therein it differs from land the value of which,—as land, as a natural opportunity for labor—is in no wise traceable to the labor of its owner. This vital force when given a wealth generating form by labor, so long as it remains in that form, and no longer, is capital. When the embodiment decays, the vital force returns to the common reservoir, and is land once more.

The result of this wealth producing power, inherent in some forms of labor products, is interest or profit. It is not rent, for it is not the price of a natural opportunity; it is not wages for it does not result immediately from labor; it is profit, because it is an increase of wealth resulting from the saving of certain forms of labor products. But like both wages and rent, it cannot be abolished. The real question therefore is not how to abolish it, but to whom to give it.

Under existing conditions it is supposed to go to the owner of the capital. This it is claimed by those who oppose usury is wrong. It seems to me that their views are largely affected by the fact, that so called interest and profit, which in fact are neither, are frequently paid, as in the case of interest on war debts, land mortgages, and so forth. I think they are also confused by the fact that we are not in the habit and reflecting that true profits may exist without borrowing, or lending.

Let me illustrate: Suppose Mr. Ehman by his labor domesticates a cow paying the community for the use of the necessary land, as Mr. George requires. Now, if he retains possession of the cow, she and all she produces will justly belong to him. But if he lend her, how does that change his right. Should he lose any of her produce except what will fairly pay the wages of the borrower. In the one case he will receive profit on capital created by him and used by him, as well as wages for his labor; why should be give up more than wages if he lends his capital. Or if he should what other effect should it have than to benefit the borrower at the expense of the lender? How would the community be benefitted? It is simply a question of whether an increment shall go to him who produces the capital out of which it proceeds, or to him who uses the capital, and it seems to me that if we give all an equal opportunity to create capital, we may safely leave the distribution of its increment to the respective borrowers and lenders, for it is only when freedom of contract is removed by the appropriation of natural opportunities, that the possession of capital gives its owner any advantage over the laborer.

It is true that Mr. George does not confine his defense of profit to that which proceeds from wealth producing forms of capital. But inasmuch as some forms of capital produce profit naturally, profit must be allowed for all forms, or labor would be directed exclusively to the creation of profit producing forms. Ploughs for example do not naturally produce profit, while cows do: but if the profits of cow raisers were not averaged with those of plough makers, enough being taken from the former and given to the latter to equalize them, we should have an oversupply of cows and no ploughs at all. And this is brought about by the natural operation of the law of interest, where by the natural tendency of labor to create profit producing capital is checked by the necessity for other forms, which tends to reduce the profit of the former, and give it to the latter.

It must not be forgotten that real profits as distinguished from usury are not a burden on labor. They do not come out of wages. Take Mr. George's illustration of the wine: Buy a bottle of wine and let it remain buried for five years. Labor ceases when the last shovel ful of earth is thrown upon it. And yet the wine when resurrected is worth perhaps treble what it was before. This added value therefore was not due to any labor except that which embodied the vital forces of mother earth in a quart of wine or the labor which gave direction to the vital force. That value Mr. George calls profit, and that is the only kind of profit which he defends, except the tribute which such a form of capital pays to the non-producing forms as an inducement to labor to produce all forms as needed. A similar illustration is a field of wheat. Between the sowing of the seed in autumn and the reaping of the ripened grain in harvest, a great value is added. This value is something over and above wages, over and above rent; it is profit on capital, and no matter to whom you give it, it will be profit—nothing else.

But Mr. Ehmann says that according to George's reasoning land ought to include the vital forces of nature. So it does, and Mr. George maintains that so long as the vital forces are in the common reservoir, they should be common property and be taken out only upon payment of ground-rent—namely a part of the produce—to the community; but having been taken out on such terms, and shaped by labor for the wants of man, they should belong with all their possibilities, profit included, to the laborer who shaped them, until by the process of decay they return to the common reservoir again.

Mr. Ehmann's reference to the fact that brewers, soap and candle makers, iron men, and so forth, have acquired the land of England, the land owners having abdicated in their favor, is a striking illustration of the mental confusion that prevails respecting the importance of the land question. If he will give the point a little further consideration, I think he will concede that the fact is wholly immaterial. Mr. George is not fighting land owners, but land owning. Take his illustration in which he supposes an island populated by 100 people, and asks what difference it would make to the ninety-nine whether the other man owned the island or owned them. We can readily see that it would make no difference. But suppose, that this man's scullion by some means, no matter what were to get his masters title to the island, how would the situation be changed? The slave owner would become a slave, and one slave would become a slave owner. That is all. What difference does it make to the people of England whether the descendants of a robber band from Normandy, or a crew of modern monopolists own the land? Certainly none. But perhaps Mr. Ehmann infers from the fact that the brewers, etc., have bought out old landlords, that there is more power in profit than in rent. In individual cases, under a system of free trade in land, it often happens so. But it is not so as an average. One monopoly capitalist may be stronger than one landlord; but the landlord class is stronger than the entire capitalist class. If each should combine against the other, the latter would be compelled to surrender to save their wealth. The very fact that the bourgeoisie hasten to intrench themselves by joining the landlord class should be sufficient proof of the superior power of landownership. Moreover, if it were not for private landownership, we should have no monopoly capitalists except such as had special government franchises. That is to say the monopoly of aggregated capital would not exist. When every one is an independent capitalist as well as a laborer, and natural opportunities are free to all on no harsher condition than a payment to the community of a fair part of the produce in ground rent, no capitalist can get more for his capital than it produces. If he demand more, opportunities being free, men will produce their own capital rather than submit to extortion. Thus men will make capital or borrow it according to which is the cheaper method. He cannot take a part of the wages of others. If he will not pay as much wages to men as they could earn working for themselves, they will not work for him. He can get them for less now because they are not permitted to work for themselves except on payment to a landlord of what would leave them no more than the capitalist will give them.

Finally, I think too much stress is placed in Mr. George's discussion of profit. Whether he be right or wrong in that, his conclusion as to the iniquity of landownership is not affected, nor his position that it lies at the base of the industrial pyramid. We may agitate and legislate against profit till the crack of doom, and yet if we permit onr present land system to continue we shall be as badly off as ever. Let profits be taken by the community, let them be wiped out if that were possible, and while the private ownership of land exists, the effect would be felt only in an increase of ground rents. But let Mr. George's land theory be put in practice, and if it then appear that profit is a burden also the remedy can be easily and effectually applied.

LOUIS F. POST.

Portland, Oregon.

We are just at the close of a hard Winter, such as has not been experienced in Portland for years. The main cause of depression in business is due to the break in Northern Pacific stocks. All buildings and other industries were stopped; the railroads were discharging all classes of labor by the hundreds, these then flocked to Portland; the result was, the town full of idle and penniless men, ready to work at any price. We advise every laboring man to stay away from here, as the place is overdone and will be more so the coming Summer, as people are now rushing to the Cour D'Alena Mines, which is not far from here. When they find the mines are a fraud and overdone they will naturally come to Portland. The boom about the mines is gotten up by the railroads to increase their receipts. Building was almost entirely suspended during the Winter, and the prospects are poor for the Summer. Carpenters are walking the streets, and some have done so for months. The carpenters are taking advantage of this by hiring men for $2 to $3 a day. No union man will work for that price, as the standard wages is recog-at $3.50 and some get $4. From all appearances the wages will come down this Summer, as the saw mills and sash and door factories have cut down wages; yet the price of living remains as high as ever. Such is the power, which Capital holds over Labor, and it will always be so until Labor is more thoroughly organized than it is at present. If the men outside of our union would join us it would be soon otherwise. We have taken some means to do away with contract convict labor. Through Legislation we will do away with it, and secure a lien law, as the present is no protection to a mechanic whatever. Several carpenters lost large amounts last Summer.

If the other unions will stand in with us we may accomplish our struggle for nine hours; we gave every contractor notice by letter three months ago of our intention. Some replied favorably, but the majority did not reply, and some of them are taking advantage of us by not hiring union men. We have such ones spotted and will be able some time to bring them to our terms.

All the unions in this city have formed themselves into a union called the Amalgamated Trade and Labor Union of Oregon. All unions sent delegates and effected a permanent organization by electing the following officers: H. O. Souther, President; John Montag, Vice-President; J. M. Vaughn, Rec. Secretary; E. T. Carr, Financial Secretary; Matt Welch, Treasurer; John Holland, Warden; W. H. Marshall, J. J. Frome, D. J. Mulcahey, Trustees. As the political pot has begun to boil, the union appointed a committee to confer with the managers of the election, requesting delegate to be sent from our union to the Convention; as we want to secure a lien law and do away with convict labor, they certainly will not refuse us, as we can control over six or eight hundred votes, and any one to the Legislature that favors our views will surely be elected. The press of the city are beginning to notice us favorably. The Bricklayers formed a union lately, and they will send delegates to the Amalgamated at our next meeting. By forming as we have it will have a tendency for others to form and come in, so that we will be increasing in power.

The Carpenters' Union received a request from Victoria Union for assistance; we voted them $25, which was the best we could do at present. The Victoria boys deserve great credit for their firmness.

We have the best mechanics in the city in our union and will make a fight in some kind of shape the first of May, as that is the time set for our demand of nine hours. We have the sympathy of all the unions.

If building were brisk we would not have so much trouble to get the short time, but there are so many carpenters coming here that are willing to work almost for any price it makes it hard for us to accomplish anything.

When the Amalgamated Union gets into working order, they intend to hold open meetings, which will undoubtedly increase the membership of all the unions. James Pride was expelled from our union for taking piece work. Another member is charged with taking a contract and hiring men not belonging to the Union, for the reason he gets them cheap. The Union is determined to make an example of such members, preferring to have a few good men than to have a crowd that do not pay any attention to their obligations.

The ball given by the union in January was a success socially and otherwise. It is our intention to give a grand picnic as soon as the season will permit.

Chicago, Ill.

On April 27th, Union No. 21 of this city held a public meeting, to fix a standard rate of wages at $3 per day.

A movement is on foot to consolidate the 12 branches of our Union, which now exist in this city into 3 or 4 branches. This will save us over one hudred dollars per month, which now goes for hall rent, expenses etc. Branch No. 1, has already consolidated with branch 4. The Union is becoming more powerful every day.

Branch 3 reports having steady gains in membership and there seems to be a livelier interest among the members than heretofore. This Branch holds a public meeting on the second Monday of every month at 208 Blue Island Avenue.

This city has just passed through a hard winter: at present business in our trade is better, but there are still a great many men out of work. Wages only $2.50 for good workmen. The prospects for work during the coming season are good, when I say work I don't mean that we will get good wages, a few may during the rush of spring work get $3.00 per day, but not being as thoroughly orgonized as we should be, I am certain it cannot hold through the season. If carpenters could only see the benefits of organization, we would be better off. Right here in this city examples are to be seen of how well organized unions control their particular trade, receiving better pay and good treatment from their employers. Yet it seems at times a wearisome task to fully organize our trade by moral suasion. In looking over the history of the past we fail to find any organization that has had full control of any trade, that has not done so by force. Ideas that have been thought to be good and would be a benefit have been crystalized into form by a few thinking men in the shape of a constitution or rules of some kind, that mapped out a policy for all to follow. Many have been hidden from public sight, and earnest zealous men have rallied around them. Their growth was slow but the time came for them to unfurl their banner and say; "those who are not with us are against us" That stage has been about reached by Union No. 21. In Chicago a building league is in formation and we intend to declare war against non-union men. The feeling of union men is that we will not make any demand for wages, but will refuse to work with non-union men. For are they not the worst enemies we have, and by the time we have them all in the union, by using moral suasion their families will be benefitted. They must be compelled to join us.

Branch No. 7 has 102 members in good standing and meets every Wednesday evening at Westphal's Hall 691 & 693 South Halstead St.

We have spent $197.85 in the suit of our Union against Hedstrom, Meekins and Davis, for damages in behalf of the family of our late brother Tobias Anderson, who died from injuries received in their employ. The following is the opinion of our Counsel as to the case as it now stands. Bro. H. J. Hansen had charge of the case as a committee from Union 21.

CHICAGO, March 20th, 1884.

MR. H. J. HANSEN,

Dear Sir:—As you have requested me to write a statement of the results of the trial of the suit against E. L. Hedstrom, Meekins and Davis, by the Administrator of the Estate of Tobias Anderson deceased, to enable you to inform the Association about it, I therefore write this letter.

As you are aware, the trial of this suit came off before Judge Anthony on the 3d and 4th days of March, and after we had put on the witness stand all the witnesses that we could find who knew anything about the death of Anderson, the Attorney for the defendants moved the Court to direct that the Jury give a verdict of not guilty against the defendants, and after we had fully argued that motion the Judge granted it and it was so done.

That disposes of the case finally, unless we conclude to appeal the suit to the Appellate Court. No blame can be attached to us, for not succeeding.

You spent a great deal of time looking up the witnesses, in bringing them to my house and office to see what they could prove, and in having them to the Court to testify, and for that reason the widow and the association are very much indebted to you for the interest and trouble you took in the matter.

The witnesses did all they could and testified fairly of all they knew about the accident, and could do no more, and you know that I worked hard enough all the way through to win the suit.

The reason we were beaten was that the evidence showed that Anderson was killed on account of the imperfect and unsafe way in which some of the timbers and supports of the scaffolding or wooden structure were fastened by some of the other carpenters. These were all fellow workmen with Anderson, and the rule of law is that where one workman is injured or killed by the act or negligence of a fellow workman, no suit lies against the employer of those workmen, as he is not liable for injuries that one workman causes his fellow workmen.

This law is usually considered in railroad accidents of one employe by the negligence of another, and if they are in the same line of employment, the one injured by the negligent act of another, cannot recover against the railroad company.

So in our case, Anderson having been hurt by the negligence of another workman, cannot hold Hedstrom & Co. liable.

If we could have proved that Hedstrom & Co. had knowledge or notice, either directly or indirectly, of how this defective and unsafe work was done, then we could hold them liable, but we could not show that.

I thought we made out a good enough case to go to the Jury, and if the Jury had considered it, I know we could have got a good verdict, and then they could have appealed.

I am sure Judge Gary would not have done so, as he allows juries to decide those questions, but Judge Anthony has different ideas, as you saw, and took the matter from the Jury and decided it himself.

But if the legal points are against us, then an appeal from Judge Anthony's decision would not help us. Yours truly,

M. J. DUNNE.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

At a regular meeting of our Union held on the 16th ins't there was a change of officers on account of the departure of the old ones: Bro's. Robert Brown C. S. J. D. Working F. S. and J. Howard R. S. and the following named Bros. were duly elected to fill their places. J. R. Taylor R. S. J. A. Brueher F. S. and C. D. McLellan C. S. So hearafter all communications should be addressed to C. D. Mc. L Box No. 526, Seattle, King Co, W. T.

Union No. 55 is running along finely and new applicotions are coming in at every meeting. The matter of a strike for 9 hours on the first of May next is causing some to feel uneasy as the town is full and over stocked with wood butchers such as we do not want in the union, most all union men at work.

Los Angeles, Cal.

It was high time a Union was started here for carpenters and other mechanics, mistled by the glowing accounts of our local newspapers which are printed for Eastern circulation, have been pouring into the city, only to find that every branch of trade was filled to overflowing, an unprecedented rain that has retarded all undertakings, and for months past they have drank in the beauties of our glorious climate and lounged around the corners chewing the merry cud of fancy and toothpicks. Of course, wages took a tumble, and if the Union can bring them up to the former standard they will feel well satisfied. Our membership has doubled since my last letter, and we now number 225.

Victoria, British Columbia.

We gave our employers notice that on and afterthe firstof March 1884,9 hours should constitute the working day and the same wages as for 10 hours. We called a public meeting on the above date and the hall was crowded to its utmost, And I may say that we got a great deal of support from the non-union men of this city; also from the members of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. And I consider that no one had a better chance of gaining their point than we had in Victoria. But it is the same here as everywhere else, there are always some black legs. Two have been expelled from our Union and more to follow, however we all hold good so far, and intend to thoroughly establish the 9 hour system in our city. All Union men are fully empoyed under 9 hours already. Next Saturday the Carpenters and Bricklayers will hold a meeting to discuss the movement.

The Bricklayers intend to strike on the 1st of May, when we expect to draw the strike to a permanent end. We will never cave in until the bosses concede our demands. Union No. 49 tenders to Unions Nos. 22, 45 and 50 its very grateful thanks for the very brotherly manner in which they have supported them financially in this struggle.

Washington, D. C.

Work is very dull here yet, and Dearing and Johnson, Builders, sent to Baltimore and Alexandria and got scab hands in preference to employing union men. They say they will not give a union man a job if they can possibly help it; that is reported all over the city, and furthermore the Knights of Labor came from Baltimore last Winter and worked on the Catholic church for two dollars and fifty cents per day, and our members had to get three dollars per day or walk around and do nothing. Something ought to be done to stop this; I believe it is done to break up our Union, they could get three dollars as well as two dollars and fifty cents if they would have asked it. This is true for one of them came to our shop to get a job, and I asked him all about it. There is some possibility of Secretary Lincoln getting the Republican nomination as a candidate for President, and I wish to notify all the Unions to fight against him if he gets it, for we had a committee that waited on him to get him to enforce the 8 hour law, and he would not and snubbed the committee.

THE CARPENTER.

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BY THE

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OF AMERICA.

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P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary,

184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, MAY, 1884.

NOTICE TO ALL LOCAL UNIONS.

All propositions or changes of constitution that are to be acted upon by our National Convention in Cincinnati, August next, should be sent into this office prior to June 1, 1884, that they may be compiled and printed in the next number of THE CARPENTER. It is proposed that the General President, with consent of the Executive Board, shall appoint five persons from among those who are elected as delegates, whose duties will be to proceed to Cincinnati a few days previous to the Convention, and then thoroughly revise our Constitution and Laws, their report to be afterwards presented to the Convention for action, so that the fullest deliberation may take place carefully, and without the haste that would otherwise occur.

—The only remedy to increase employment is to reduce the hours of labor. Less hours of labor means more days work in the year.

—Wherever you find Straiton & Storms Cigars boycott them! The firm is unwilling to pay decent wages to its employes and is opposed to trades unions. The Owl is their trade mark, and their factory numbers are 11, 15, and 29, 3d District, New York. See the label at bottom of box for these numbers, and then don't either touch, taste or handle those cigars.

—Write postal cards to the United States Senator from your State, and urge him to work for the passage of the bill for a National Labor Bureau. Although deficient in many respects inasmuch as it does not confer sufficient powers to compel reluctant witnesses to give testimony under oath, nevertheless the creation of the Bureau is the first step. After that amendments can be made to the law.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMBINATIONS.

Isaac Cline and Andrew Burtt of Pitts. burgh, General President and Secretary of the Glass Workers set sail on April 26th for Europe. They are delegated by the Glass Workers of this country to visit Belgium, Germany, England, France and Italy and to effect complete International organization of their trade. We had the pleasure of an hour's chat with them prior to their departure. The Furniture Workers Int. Union of America has received a letter from the cabinet makers union of Paris, which states that relations are now effected between the French and English unions, and they ask for the co-operation of the American union.s

— Our Carpenters' Unions should make a move everywhere to reduce the hours of labor on Saturday to eight, provided they do not feel in position to reduce them more generally every day in the week. Our Boston and Philadelphia Unions have started the ball, and Hartford will soon follow. Who next?

OUR BROTHERHOOD.

The few years that our Brotherhood has been in existence have witnessed quite a marked change in the condition of the carpenters wherever our organization has been planted.

Waged have maintained a more fixed standard, if they have not been really advanced, while the hours of labor have been reduced in most instances.

The system of cut-throat competition, which arrayed man against man, has given way to co-operation and fraternity.

The piece-work system, which was the ruin of the trade in many cities, has been discouraged and broken down.

Fraudulent coutractors, fond of cheating their employes of their scanty wages, even after being earned, have been brought to terms.

And the entire level of the trade has been elevated to a loftier, more dignified and respected position.

This has been no easy task! It has taken hard and persistent work, constant and untiring agitation, and courageous, patient devotion to accomplish it. In each city a Spartan band of noble and unselfish men have held aloft the banner of unionism among carpenters and encouraged their fellows to organize and labor for each other's good. With sublime heroism they have made priceless sacrifices for the interest of the trade. And well may they be proud of their work.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters has now become a fixed fact in the labor movement of America. While it aims to organize the trade and is doing so, it stretches out the hand of fellowship to all other trades and classes of labor. Each local Union is connected with the Trades Assembly or Labor Council of its locality, or if there is none, we are making every effort to form one. We have taken no small part in the creation of Building Trades Leagues—a combination of the Unions of all the building trades, and we are affiliated with the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canadas, which meets annually in convention and is composed of delegates from all the leading local, national and international trades and labor societies. This binds us together in a union of interest with organized labor everywhere.

Besides that we have aided in establishing the Carpenters' National Union in Germany, and have the warmest fraternal relations with the Amalgamated Carpenters, and with the Carpenters Unions in Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Denmark, Belgium and Germany.

Our's is no narrow, selfish close-corporation movement. We start from a basis of common interest in our trade, and by organizing on that principle, we are not prevented from assisting others outside of our trade in time of struggle and need. Time has proven that whenever aid was called for, our unions and members have ever been prompt and generous in their responses.

While some of our individual members may have some connection with the Knights of Labor, we, as a body, form no part of that order, and are entirely independent of it. Our only affiliation is with the Federation of Trades.

A few years ago we were a scattered lot of unions with only eight cities organized, and having no interest in common. Now we stretch as a unit from Halifax to San Francisco and from Canada to Texas, with over 60 cities organized and our membership increasing at the rate of three hundred per month. Wherever our members travel they are received with open arms as union men, and assisted to obtain employment.

Through the medium of our journal—*The Carpenter*—our members are informed regnlarly each month as to wages and the condition of trade in each city, and the doings of the trade generally.

We have a system of benefits which makes our Brotherhood one of the best forms of insurance for its members. With our general system of Death Benefit of $250 and our Disability Benefit, we have incorporated a sick benefit and tool insurance as local features.

Such are some of the reasons why we should feel proud of our Brotherhood! It has done a noble work, and it remains for us to not abate one got of our efforts until we cover this entire country and embrace every honest carpenter in America. With the zeal of enthusiasts and missionaries let us go out among non union men and bring them into our fold. This year must bo made one of glory for our cause. Work faithfully, one and all. We expect every man to do his duty!

THE UNIVERSAL CRISIS.

From all parts of the civilised world comes the cry that trade is bad and that it bids fair to be worse. Manifestly we are in the earlier stages of one of those world-wide industrial crises which since 1825 have recurred at each successive ten-year period. The mercantile and financial community have come to regard such collapses as inevitable and have almost given up any attempt to put forward a rational explanation of them. Yet all must admit that nothing in human society needs closer attention than these fearful dislocations of the whole system of production and exchange which occasion untold misery in every quarter of the globe. For the working classes in particular it is essential that these periods of prosperity and over-production, of glut and depression should be carefully examined. They suffer more than any other from the disturbance thus produced. No doubt it is unpleasant for a merchant to become a bankrupt and not agreeable for his creditors that he should pay only a few shillings on the pound. But financial magnates such as Mr. Villard of the Northern Pacific Railway or Mr. Morris Ranger of Liverpool generally contrive to live pretty comfortably even after they have failed. The shopkeeping class also, though harder pushed, have as a rule in bad times something to fall back upon. But with the workers as a class the case is very different. The great majority live and cannot but live from hand-to-mouth and a crisis to them means simply semi-starvation or the workhouse for themselves and their families. And now look round upon the condition of trade and industry and see what sort of prospect there is for those who thus live by labor as well as for the classes who live upon labor. From no single point is the news good. America is a protectionist country, she has still millions and millions of good land lying open to the laborer, the government is in form a Republic and every citizen has the right to vote. If an American workman were told that he is not free and independent he would feel insulted. There is no large standing army to increase his taxation and waste years of his life in drill, and education is almost universal. Yet men are being discharged from work in all the eastern cities of the United States strikes and reduction of wages are common; everywhere the complaint arises of glut, of over-production, of the impossibility to carry on at a profit. Clearly the United States have not solved the economical problem. Turn to France the land of the small farmer and the small family, the country where population barely increases. What do we find? The same state of things: French houses unable to meet German competition; glut of goods; in the industrial centres strikes, lockouts; complaints of agricultural depression and appeals to the Chamber for help. Attempts are now being made to right affairs at home by hopeless war in order to open new markets abroad. Germany also, where protection was but now the great panacea, the very country which is underselling its neighbors by cheap production, finds that Bismarck has no more discovered the means to ward off this decennial blight which withers the best-sown schemes for general happiness, than the men of the people across the border. So in Italy, so in Austria, so in Russia, so in India. And the same here. England the centre of all the great capitalist system, the carrier of the world, the great home of free-trade is also manifestly in the declining cycle without having any compensating period of prosperity. Strikes have taken place in all directions, the hands have in almost every instance been obliged to give way and to all appearance the masters in every branch of trade have the control in their hands not merely in reality, as of course they always have, but so manifestly that the workers see that they cannot possibly hope to succeed against them. And this comes, as just remarked, not after a period of great prosperity for England, but at a time when even the well-to-do can barely make both ends meet and the agricultural depression due to American competition has affected every interest. When investing brokers give it as their opinion that the income of their clients during the past twelve months was but one-half that of a good year—say 1871 or 1872—we may be quite sure that there has been more bad trade already than is generally known. Thus, then, neither Free Trade nor Protection, neither Republic nor Empire, neither Commercial Statesmanship nor State Socialism has the slightest effect in warding off this industrial anarchy due to a system which though carried on by human beings seems wholly independent of intelligent human control.

"And do you Workers know any more about it than the rest?" asks one. We do. We both recognise the anarchy, understand its causes, and can point out whence the controlling force, and with that control the remedy and reorganisation must come. What is more, we all tell the same story in every language and in every country. The bankruptcy of the existing system of wage-earning production and capitalist appropriation is clear to any man who will look. Why is there crises? Because there is a glut of commodities? Why is there a glut of commodities? Because more has been produced than people will buy. What produces commodities? Labor. Is there then no one ready to labor in return for commodities who wants some of those commodities: I am sure I saw some hundreds of unemployed men looking for work in the streets? There are thousands, but we can't employ them. Why? Because we can't make a profit, owing to the glut of goods. Surely such a brief imaginary conversation as that shows where the difficulty arises. It is due simply to the fact that the capitalist class in every country carries on a system of relentless competition at the expense of the workers, without regard to their interests, and turns them out upon the street when no profit can be made, though hundreds of thousands may be ready to do useful work for those very goods. Never then until the working class itself combines to overthrow the whole system can we possibly avoid these fearful industrial crises. It is quite possible that during this very crisis, which promises to be long and serious, an attempt will be made to substitute collective for capitalist control. Ideas move fast: the workers are coming together. They are learning from one another the juggle which is carried on at their expense. Call it therefore evolution, or call it revolution, the time is not far distant when International Socialism will try conclusions with that international capitalism which exists in its dedadence as in its youth and its maturity, only to embrute and to enslave the producers of the world.—*London Justice.*

H. M. HYNDMAN.

—Bro. J. W. Stewart has been elected Corresp. Secretary of Philadelphia Union No. 8.

—Bro. J. McLellan takes the place of Robert Brown resigned, as Cor. Secretary of Seattle Union No. 45.

—Bro. M. J. Thompson, Toledo Union No. 25, has had his house burned to the ground last month.

—Our General President, J. P. McGinley, has been elected by the Illinois State Trade Assembly as delegate to the General Federation of Trades, which meets in Chicago in October next.

—Carpenters' Union No. 21, of Chicago, has unanimously decided to demand $3 per day as a standard to go into effect in July. Work is plenty, and the men are hopeful. The union has consolidated into two branches.

GENERAL OFFICERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD.

General Secretary—P. J. McGuire, 184 William street, New York.

General Treasurer—J.F.GILLESPIE, 722 N. 10th St.

" Trustees—J. D. Allen, W. T. Eberhardt, R. J. Ross.

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(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members, and particularly for the benefit of our travelling brothers.)

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ALBANY, N. Y.—Wendel Hans, 216 Morton St.
BALTIMORE, Md.—I. B. Aylsworth, 684 Pennsylvania Ave.
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WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

OSBORNE & ALEXANDER, 628 Market St., San Francisco, Cal, Importers of Machinery, Tools, Hardware, etc., is the leading house of its kind on the Pacific Coast, Hardware and Tools are their specialties, and are sold at bottom figures, and goods guaranteed as represented. The members of union No. 22 should patronize them.

W. F. & JOHN BARNES, Rockford Ill, manufacture the best wood working machinery. The well-known reputation of this firm for first class circular saws, scroll saws, mortising tenone, formers, etc., can not be disputed. Descriptive catologue and price list free.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Utica, N. Y.

There is some prospect of starting a union here. About a month ago the carpenters put a notice in the daily papers that they would ask for a raise of 50 cents a day on all men; they were in a Knights of Labor Assembly here, and when the first of April came the men asked for the raise of wages, and the bosses refused. Well, the next was a strike, and how long did it last? Just one week, and on Monday they went back to work at the old price. They are getting from $1.50 up to $2.50 a day; now they want a union here. There is a good field. Over 25 men spoke to me about it.

Cleveland, O.

Trade is picking up a little, but I do not think it will last long. Cleveland can spare five or six hundred botch carpenters, and then times might be better. Our State Legislature has adjourned, but before doing so it abolished the prison contract system and created an inspector of workshops, factories and mines. Through our Trades Assembly we procured the appointment of a practical mechanic, a resident of this place, as inspector, and through the remonstrance of our Trades Assembly we prevented the appointment of that labor renegade, John Fehrenbach, as one of the managers of the State Penitentiary.

Charleston, S.C.

Union No. 52 is progressing rapidly. I have received those appeals you sent and distributed them as far as would go, and the brothers of the union think it a capital idea. We have initiated three new candidates into our Brotherhood at our regular meeting, April 14.

Savannah, Ga.

Local Union No. 57, of Savannah, Ga., was organized on the evening of April 7, by Deputy Organizer Rames, of Charleston. We are proud to see that this union has reached our city, and hope that it will extend through the country as far as it possibly can. Lewis J. Pettigrew is our President, and Wm. B. Jenkins Financial Secretary.

Omaha, Neb.

At a meeting of carpenters of this city, held on Thursday, April 3, an organization was completed according to the constitution laid down by the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and forty-one carpenters signed the roll, and the officers were elected. At our second meeting, held April 10, our number swelled up to eighty-five members, and I was instructed to forward $5 to you and apply for a charter. The prospects of our society are all that could be desired. The following is a list of the officers elect: President, John Henry; 1st Vice-Pres., Hance Porter; 2d Vice-Pres., Chas. Stuht; Rec. Sec., James Stoneman; Fin. Secretary, J. S. Kough; Cor. Sec., John T. Coatsworth; Treas., J. McAllister; Conductor, A. S. Wiggins.

St. Louis, Mo.

A meeting of carpenters and joiners was held at Turner Hall, a large number being in attendance. It was determined to make an effort to establish a uniform rate of wages, and a general discussion took place as to the plan to be adopted to bring about this result. The Exposition building seems to be a stumbling-block at present, where a large number of carpenters have been employed at all sorts of figures Some of the most active and intelligent men of the trade have taken hold of the matter, however, and if the thing is at all possible at present a uniform rate will be established this coming summer.

Hamilton, Canada.

The prospects for a brisk trade for the coming Summer are not good at present, there being no large contracts as yet to be let, only a few tenements and repairing jobs going on. The supply of Carpenters in this city are in excess of the demand; numbers are leaving the city to seek employment elsewhere. The prospects for the Bricklayers being no better, a number of them also intend moving, but Union No. 8, is pushing on slowly but surely; there being only some five members out of employment with wages from $1.75 to $2.00 per day. Other trades are also dull. The operatives of the Cotton Mills make only four days in the week, and the western branch of the Grand Trunk Railway Shops in this city make only five days in the week, there is talk of cutting them down to Four days. But we are living in hopes that times may prove better before long.

Another New Union in California.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—At a meeting of the carpenters and joiners of this city, held on March 11, and adjourned to the 15th, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, it is desirable that we rescun our trade from the low level, to which it has fallen, and to do so by mutual effort,

Therefore, we the undersigned carpenters and joiners of Los Angeles, Cal., hereby organize ourselves into a union under the auspices of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, subject to the Constitution and General Laws which govern that body, and also subject to the Local Rules, Rules of Order, and Order of Business, which govern the Local Unions of the Brotherhood.

This document was signed by one hundred and twelve carpenters present at the meeting, and officers were elected for the term. The meeting was addressed by several members of the Brotherhood, and after a lengthy discussion on the method to pursue in organizing, I was authorized, by motion, to send to the G. S. for a charter and outfit.

The meeting was very enthusiastic and we are on the road to success, that is, we anticipate a membership of 500 before two months are up, and be thus enabled to co-operate with other unions on this coast for the benefit of the trade.

In this semi-tropical latitude, where a basket is deemed a fitter dwelling than a Herring safe, the basket requiring less ingenuity than the safe in its construction, and the style being somewhat stereotyped, has had a tendency to create a small army of contractors who are perforce journeymen the greater part of the time. These men are anxious to join the union, as they readily perceive the benefits to be derived from it. Their support of the union induces carpenters to join, who are chronic opposers of any labor organization, and the consequence will be that in a few months the "hard cases," the selfish ones who refuse to "miscegenate," will be but a mere handful. We are now in a position to command a fair standard of wages, and once that is assured, there will not exist that disposition to compete for contracts to the extent of cutting each other's throat, and reducing wages to the lowest mininum.

We are for union, and we mean business from the word "go."

From the land of orange groves and sunshine we salute the members of the Brotherhood.

The following is our list of officers: President, Wm. Downie; Vice-Pres., Jesse Platt; Rec. Sec., Arthur Vinette; Cor. Sec., Sam'l F. Green; Treasurer, R. H. McDonald; Conductor, M. J. Levins; Warden, W. W. Dexter; Trustees: John B. Rousseau, O. Beauchamps, N. C. Liston; Ass't Conductor, W. H. McDonald; Door Keeper, J. J. Blaikie.

Cincinnati, O.

I am glad to inform you that none of the members of Union No. 2 were wounded or killed in the late riot, and especially I wish to say that there was no Trades Unionist mentioned in the lists, with the exception of a cigarmaker, who was on lockout at that time. It is a good showing for us in this city, for if we had participated in the riot, we would never hear the last of it, but I must say it was necessary to clean out the corruption, and it has scared the officials of Hamilton County some, and I think they will do better hereafter. Sheriff Hawkins of this city has been censured by all organizations. I think myself he overdid what was intrusted to him, it is his fault that we had so much Militia here. If he had given up those few prisoners, all this bloodshed would have been saved, and the court house not burned. We have lowered our initiation fee to $2.00 for three months to give outsiders a chance to come in. Trade is picking up lively now, and good hands are scarce, with plenty of saw and hatchet men open for engagement.

Kansas City, Mo.

It is estimated that this season there will be more building done here than any other season before. Wages will be about the same as last year $2.50—$2.75 per day. Had the leaders of Carpenters' Union No. 13 left politics alone, we would be prosperous to-day. In my mind it takes years of systematic instruction and organization to let any union act and work as a body in potitics. The workingmen have no greater enemy than themselves. One always antagonizes the other, one union the other, the East against the West, and so it goes on. Their troubles are often brought about by directly opposite causes, and hence the contention. Labor will in due time get all the legislation asked for, but will never be one farthing better off, unless it lifts itself by unity.

Dallas, Texas.

The Dallas *Texan* says: Hundreds of buildings are contemplated, capital is massing here for investment ground was broken this week for a five year job on the United States court building, and if the workingmen of Dallas can only secure a fair days wages for a fair day's work, they may fairly hope for a season of prosperity and plenty. But they will *not* get this, unless they organize unitedly and demand it. The eastern papers are even now teeming with advertisements of workingmen wanted in Texas, some of them emanating from Dallas. Stone-cutters, brick-masons, carpenters, joiners, and other tradesmen, pour in here, singly, in couples and in gangs, only to be informed that a sufficient number has been secured, and that their services are not needed. Many of them have spent all their means in reaching here, and are compelled to work, tramp, or starve. The competition thus engendered necessarily reduces wages, and renders the tenure of employment at living wages more and more uncertain. This competition and the bad weather we are now having and may expect during the spring, is bringing the building trades to a condition that is really serious. Two or three little local strikes on particular buildings and against special grievances have been inaugurated, but have accomplished little or nothing. To better their condition, the workers must act intelligently and unitedly.

An effort will be made next week to unite the carpenters of the city. Let every knight of the saw and hammer aid the work with all his power. Forget past differences and personal prejudices, and come together, shoulder to shoulder, upon the broad platform of "one for all, and all for one.

Philadelphia, Pa.

New life has taken hold of the workingmen of this city, and the cause of it is the short hour agitation which has been projected by Carpenters' Union No. 8. On April 24th, Vienna Hall was crowded by carpenters and representatives of various trades, in response to a call for a public meeting, to discuss the hours of labor. P. J. McGuire of New York was the principal speaker; he explained the advantages of a short hour movement and recommended that to begin with, the first step should be to adopt the rule of 8 hours on Saturday and quit at 4 P. M. After addresses by James Wright, W. F. Eberhardt, John D. Allen, James Orrick, William Webner and others, it was unanimously resolved to secure the eight hour system on Saturday, and an Executive Committee was appointed to carry on the agitation. Another public meeting will be held in Academy Hall, 10th and Springgarden Sts. on Friday eve, May 9th for the further consideration of the subject, with a view to make the movement more general among all the trades and occupations. W. H. Foster and Henry O. Cole of New York Ex-President of the Bricklayers National Union will address the meeting. This agitation is already meeting with a ready and enthusiasiic response from all sides in the city. It only remains now with the men themselves to make the idea a reality, by being manly enough to say to their employers; "We won't work after 4 P. M. on Saturdays."

Union No. 8 has appointed a committee for a general revision of the constitution of the Brotherhood, to have the same published in the June *Carpenter* for the consideration of all the Unions, and to be acted on by the coming convention in Cincinnati in August next. A committee is also at work to arrange a public prize concert, the proceeds of which is to be the beginning of a Hall Fund. Union No. 8, is determined to soon have a hall or building of its own.

Trade is starting up and work is only middling; wages $2.25 to $2.75; the average $2.50.

Boston, Mass.

We are progressing fairly in the way of membership and initiate a membership of four or five every meeting. The members of our union have at last awakened and are doing their utmost to bring in new members. We have a movement on foot to reduce the hours of labor on Saturday to eight hours, and in union with the Amalgamated Carpenters of Boston we intent to place our cause before the bosses in a fair and forcible manner, and judging from the reports of our members from the various shops throughout the city, we will not meet with but few objections. We feel confident of having the majority of the bosses on our side, or at least enough to crush those miserable reptiles that are working against us and cause them to crawl into their holes and die.

Trade is fair; there is a good deal of work ready to start, but there is plenty of men to do it. The average wages are $2.50. It has been reported that scabs throughout the city have offered to go to work for as low as $2; no union men are working for less than the standard wages; this instance has gone far to strengthen our union, and will continue to do so.

Toledo, Ohio.

Business picking up quite lively; wages $2.25 to $2.50. Union No. 25 growing nicely.

We would caution all carpenters to give no credence to reports or advertisements of carpenters wanted for although there will be considerable more work here this season, than there was last we are not in need of outside help, as there are more than enough of carpenters here to do all the work that will be done this season. We write this because there are men here who use the advertisement dodge to induce men to come here, and thereby keep wages down.

In regard to the changes to the constitution recommended, we do not want the endowment lowered. The disability benefit is about right as it is. A tool benefit as recommended would be no good.

Second, better leave the age for benefits at 60 years.

Third, is all right only we should provide funds by assessment, not by capita tax.

Fourth, make capita tax sufficient to cover running expenses of the Brotherhood.

Fifth. We favor funds being sent to General Treasurer.

Sixth. 50 cts. per month will do for all, after assessments pay benefits.

Seventh. Is very good.

Eighth. It is not necessary that the Trustees should be all located in the same city.

Ninth. We favor a Board of Appeals.

We are preparing amendments to the constitution, and when we get through, will send you a copy, and if all Local Unions would do the same, the work of the Convention would be greatly lightened.

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NEW YORK.

IN HARD TIMES—WHAT?

In the March number of THE CARPENTER the question is asked, what remedies are to be adopted in hard times, when the crisis throws thousands of workmen out of employment, and thus intensifies the misery of the miserable. The crisis of 1873 has given us a taste of what to expect, and that terrible lesson should not pass unheeded.

Before proposing any plan, we will first state what ought not to be done, what remedies should be rejected.

We don't believe in the *soup-house remedy* for hard times and lack of employment. Men, willing to work, should not be offered the charitable but demoralizing soup bucket, because those in authority see no way to furnish work.

We don't believe in the stone breaking, street cleaning or paving remedy. It is at best a temporary makeshift, and men who have never handled a shovel or pick or paver take hold of an occupation (and gladly) for which they have not been trained. Besides the number is limited who can be so employed. Even in ordinary "good times" a large number of unskilled laborers who earn their living in this way, are only temporarily employed, and as a remedy to furnish work to the thousands out of employment through a crisis it is entirely inadequate.

These remedies, as a means of averting, or even to any noticeable extent, alleviating distress, are therefore out of the question. To pursue them is merely to avert thought and action from better plans.

It would also be well to know what is the probable cause of this regularly occurring industrial anarchy, and as a preliminary we will state what we think is *not* the cause.

We don't believe it is a sign of divine displeasure. Some men, too lazy or dull to think, take refuge in that same fatalism, which paralyzes the Mohamedan; ascribe everything to God and nothing to man. The land is just as fertile, the sunshine just as warm, the rain just as abundant, all natural elements just as ready to bless toil with rich results and yet some mysterious barrier seems interposed between these natural elements and the worker. This is not God's will, but man's imperfect interpretation of it, unless God's will is the misery, poverty and suffering of producers. This cannot be, hence we must look for the cause nearer home, among ourselves.

We don't believe it is the increase in the number of producers or possible producers that has brought it on. MALTHUSIANISM IN ESSENCE TEACHES that the more born, the greater the misery and unhappiness resulting. While 100 men in a barbaric state produce enough to support many times their numbers this doctrine assumes that when they become civilized and have machinery, which adds a thousandfold to the productiveness of labor, that 8,000,000 can only produce enough for 35,000,000 instead of 40,000,000.

The *Cincinnati Commercial*, in 1873, was impelled by the promptings of its kind editorial heart to present this theory in an easily understood manner to the deluded workingmen who persisted in having children. It compared laborers with cabbages and carried out the illustration that laborers were dear or cheap for the same reason that cabbages sold at higher or lower rates. Many cabbages—cheap sauerkraut, few cabbages—and it becomes a vanished luxury.

We can therefore, according to the *Commercial's* parable, describe the Malthusian theory as the CABBAGE-HEAD THEORY, according to which workmen out of employment are only surplus cabbage heads.

Neither do we think it is extravagant living on the part of the working class that has brought about their poverty or causes a crisis. The vices and extravagances of the rich are too-well ventilated in the newspapers for this accusation to obtain any foothold. A rich spendrift squanders in one day enough to support many families for a whole year. The care and money spent by Vanderbilt, Bonner and other amateur lovers of horse flesh upon their stables may highly develop the leg speed of their equines, but it represents in substance that much labor. And the inestimable wives and daughters of the wealthy class also brim over with love of the animal kingdom, and seem to have specially selected the dog as the choice object of their devotion. The following from the *Commercial Gazette* will be highly interesting, and we advise workingmen to save it for hard times.

American Missionary.—Pet dogs are the latest hobby in the fashionable world of New York and other large cities. A certain costly species of bull-terrier, grown exceedingly small by inbreeding and doses of gin, is the favorite of women wealthy enough to afford indulgence in such pets. They are hideously mis-shapen little monsters, but the uglier they are the more they are valued. They are taken out every day by their mistresses or footmen for an airing wearing embroidered coats and gold collars, on which their names are engraved or set in jewels.

One of these dogs died in Philadelphia lately, and formal notice was given to the friends of its mistress, who sent their dogs in carriages with liveried footmen, &c. The dead dog was laid in a satin-lined, silver-mounted coffin; offerings of flowers were sent, and a costly monument was raised over its grave.

"Beppo," the pet of a wealthy young lady, lately sent out cards for a reception, which was attended by all the *haut ton* of dogdom. The homely little beasts sent to the reception were served on dainty china with all the delicacies of the caterer's art. The feast, floral decortions, &c., cost more than $200.

Political economists, in order to justify the immense incomes of the rich tell us capital is the reward of abstinence. In the face of the above and many other well-known facts we leave the readers to judge for themselves.

WHAT DO WE REGARD AS THE CAUSE OF A CRISIS? We reply in one word: The wage system. Under the present wage system the producers obtain in wages only a part of the wealth produced. According to the statistics of the United States, wages are only one-sixth of what the workers create. If the money received therefore represents only one-sixth of what their labor produced, our class can only consume as much as their wages can buy, namely one-sixth. This leaves an apparent surplus in warehouses, etc., which gives rise to the cry of over-production. With hungry stomachs to feed, these wise men state too much food has been produced; with ragged people still to clothe, they claim too many clothes have been made; with homeless, houseless families or crowded tenement houses, they state too much building has been done. We are poor, because we are too rich, or, as the Chicago *Daily News* elated: "We are miserable, because we are prosperous."

That paradox may do for a millionaire satiated with every pleasure, to whose jaded sensibilities and mind life offers no more enjoyment, but not for society. With such capitalistic scribblers society *begins* with the millionaire, and when that worthy cannot immediately invest his surplus money in some profitable way, "he is miserable because too prosperous," and every one of the other fifthy million inhabitants are supposed to deplore the same hard luck.

How can a crisis be averted, or if one does come, how should it be met?

We have seen that because the wages system cuts down the consuming power of the producers that it destroys its own market. Every nation instinctively knows that it is doing this, but hopes to conquer foreign markets in place of that destroyed at home. Indeed, Ex-Secretary Evarts exquisitely exhibited ears as long as his sentences when in his summary of the Consular Reports in 1880 he recommended, nay, implored American workingmen in the name of patriotism to accept smaller wages that their employers might get control of the world's market. Oh, how happy they would be, if by coming down to 30 cents or less a day, their employers would be able to undersell England and other effete monarchies. The millenium would surely then arrive. But the slight drawback connected with this advice is that if some English, French or German Evarts implores *his* countrymen in the name of patriotism to prevent American employers from getting possession of this delusion, and the workingmen all the world over follow the advice of their statesmen, we would have the sublime spectacle of the workingmen, the whole world over, voluntarily starving themselves to death, OUT OF SHEER PATRIOTISM, that their employers might get the world's market.

Consequently smaller wages won't conquer even foreign markets permanently. This remedy is not the one. What can it be?

It must be a remedy that will make a market instead of destroying it. This can only be done by making workingmen *self-employers*, so that they no longer give away five-sixths of what their labor produces for the mere privilege of being allowed to work. The capital necessary to production must be controlled and owned by the producers. They can then exchange and consume to the full extent of what they produce, and no stagnation or crisis can continue.

During a crisis thousands are compelled to walk the streets or stay at home. while the factories and machinery rust. Every trade is effected.

If shoemakers could be permitted to run the idle shoe factories, they would be certain to find workingmen in other trades who would be willing to give the results of their labor in exchange for shoes. The idle tailor, the idle bricklayer, mason, carpenter, tinner, furniture maker, molder, in fact, the whole series of industrial trades could, if they had the *means* of employment, the factories, machinery and raw material, find consumers for their products. The farmer would suddenly find a real market for his grain, etc., sprung into existence, and in return he could also use the products of the factories. What prevents this being realized?

Want of capital? Not so much as want of knowledge.

By a crisis the *present system declares itself bankrupt*. For a good many employers this is an actual occurrence. Many factories, farms, and railroads centre into the hands of the very rich who have sufficient resources in ready money, &c., to float themselves in the general wreck. Rather than permit these men become still richer from the spoils of the social wreck, we believe that society has a right to be the assignee and wind up the affairs of the bankrupt industrial system. The producers have a right to do so in self-protection. "We have permitted you to "carry on production," they can say, "and you have never been able to fulfil the "duties. You have brought poverty, mi- "sery and crime upon us, and now that "starvation stares us in the face, we have "the right to save ourselves from the so- "cial wreckers called millionaires by tak- "production in our own hands." Rather than live on charity, rather than starve, each trade union will propose to its former employer to take hold of the shop and allow him a laborer's share for whatever *work* he performs. Many employers seeing no alternative but ruin would willingly assent and others could be induced to consent by being guaranteed the payment of a certain sum within a convenient space of time, or else by letting them keep their idle factories, and building new ones with money raised by loans and taxation, just as it is done for school purposes. Rather than build alms-houses, soup-houses, jails or intermediary prisons for tramps (as Ex-President Hayes proposedwhen Governor of Ohio) build factories. Society to-day is so curiously constituted that it does not take cognizance of any individual, unless he confesses himself a pauper or criminal. If a thousand men were to go to any municipal government and demand work it would be replied that the city cannot furnish work. But if these thousand men were to become tramps and beggars, then society would recognize them and either set them to breaking stones or else build a soup house. If the evil became too great it would build more prisons and then sell the labor of these same men to contractors. Thus in a degraded, demoralizing way it would be compelled to furnish work, so as to keep them from dying outright of starvation.

Will workingmen permit matters to go that far? Is the picture overdrawn? Not to thosp who remember how thousands thronged the streets and highways during the last crisis.

Unions must necessarily play an important part in this change. We believe every trade contains men with sufficient ability to organize it as above described.

Trade production could then centralize in large factories and with increased machinery, the hours of labor could be immediately reduced. Exchange could be simplified between the different trades. Child labor and women's labor would be no longer questions to vex us. Men then will be able to support their wives and children comfortably.

Whenever such proposals as the above are made, they are denounced as "communistic." No matter how just they may be, that word seems to settle it. Men who are not going to be frightened by a word will listen to reason, and judge for themselves. Those who won't, evidently prefer a crisis. At least they can console themselves that it isn't communistic. When they get their supply of soup they can console themselves that there is no communism in it. But hold! As society doles it out, it is to that extent communistic and let their stomachs writhe as it may, it is the rich man's communistic soup given out to men who prefer charity to independent labor. It is charity communistically organized to prevent worse or better remedies from being adopted. The poor-house itself is a faint abortion of communism as interpreted by capitalists. Sooner or later workingmen must choose between the seif-help of co-operation, as outlined above, or else Chinese submission. IS SUBMISSION A MONGOLIAN ATTRIBUTE? Look at the Hindoo, the Italian, the French and Russian peasant, the Hungarians with whom Pennsylvania miners contend? These people are "advanced" types of what our industrial system produces if unchecked. They are workingmen after the capitalists' own heart. They take all kicks, cuffs and indignities. They never draw up resolutions against shop rules, never resist a reduction, never demand an advance, form no union, organize no strike. Ex-Secretary Evarts was unstinted in his praise of their docility, their obedience, their "co-operation" with employers in accepting smaller wages. If this is to be our ideal, let us give up unionism. Evarts did recommend this, and Evarts is regarded as a wise man. His head is level—on the capitalistic side. Indeed, a safe principle for workingmen to adopt is to adopt the measures such men denounce, and to reject the measures they advise. When they applaud be convinced you have blundered, when they foam and fret, you may be sure you are doing right

If unionism means anything it is to enable workingmen to avert the evils of poverty, to raise them to a higher standard. It must seek to counteract the crisis, which tends to undermine the union. If it can do so by other measures, we will be glad to adopt them. But when it lies between such remedies as Evarts and others propose, and the measure suggested above, we believe all unionists will see that the latter seems to be the only course to pursue.

Unionism is merely social co-operation in embryo. It seeks to control industry for the benefit of its members, to avert evils, etc. Will it disband when a crisis comes along and apparently sweeps all markets out of resistance? No.

Unionists with factories organized under their supervision will undertake to furnish markets quickly enough, and when it is generally adopted, the crisis will disappear never more to return.

JOHN EHMANN.

DAYTON, Ohio.

LET THE UNIONS SEND ON THEIR NAMES.

I would like to get the whole number of names and addresses of members of the Brotherhood throughout the United States. Probably a suggestion to send lists in the Carpenter would do it. I can mail some useful matter under franking privelege, such as Hopkins speech on labor bureau, besides many others of like character. They are about to print them for use in their Congressional Districts, and I can get what I need for our members.

If you think the effort of any benefit I will undertake the task of mailing with pleasure I think anything that will cause men to think, will help them. I have already sent off all the Agricultural Reports I could get to my Farmer friends, and think labor speeches are the legitimate property of skilled labor.

Yours, G EDMONSTON.

Washington D. C. April 30. 1884.

Der Carpenter.

New York, Mai 1884.

Chicago, April 6. 1884.

Zweig 7 Union 21 zählt laut Bericht in der letzten General-Versammlung 102 gutstehende Mitglieder. Wir versammeln uns von jetzt ab jeden Mittwoch Abends 8 Uhr in Westphal's Halle 691—693 S. Halstadstreet.

— Wir lenken die Aufmerksamkeit unserer Leser auf folgende Thatsachen: Wir finden, daß, im Allgemeinen genommen, Maurer, Steinhauer und einige andere Gewerke besser organisirt sind und deshalb 50 Cents bis $1 per Tag mehr fordern können, als die Schreiner, welche sich einen großen Vorrath von kostspieligen Werkzeugen anschaffen und die längere Zeit lernen müssen, ehe sie gute Arbeit verrichten können; wir sind der Meinung, daß dieses die Folge der Thatsache ist, daß andere Gewerke besser organisirt sind, als unseres, und daß deren Mitglieder den festen Entschluß haben, Jedem in einem brüderlichen und männlichen Wege zur Seite zu stehen. Wir sagen, daß wenn die Schreiner jeder Stadt sich uns anschließen wollten, wir ihnen die Vortheile eines Vereins anbieten könnten, welcher seit Jahren besteht und Zweige in jeder Stadt hat.

Unverbesserlich.

Die Rücksichtslosigkeit mit welcher Fabrikanten und Unternehmer fortwährend versuchen, die Löhne zu reduziren oder auf einer niedrigen Stufe zu erhalten und die Arbeitszeit zu verlängern oder doch eine Abkürzung derselben zu verhindern, ist eine große, wird aber noch um ein Bedeutendes übertroffen durch die Unverschämtheit und freche Verlogenheit, womit manche Zeitungsschreiber, welche weder Lust noch Fähigkeit haben, der menschlichen Gesellschaft durch ihre Thätigkeit nützlich zu sein, sie darin unterstützen und ermuthigen. So bringt auch das New Yorker Organ der Möbelfabrikanten einen Artikel über „Frühlings-Strikes", worin über die Trades Unions Beschwerde geführt wird, weil sich die Mitglieder derselben weigern, einzusehen, daß eine Reduktion der Löhne in Folge der Geschäftsflauheit und der Reduktion der Lebensmittelpreise nothwendig geworden sei. „Die Majorität der Fabrikanten können mit ihren Einnahmen kaum ihre Ausgaben bestreiten. Die Bankerotte vermehren sich und in keinem Geschäftszweig sind die Aussichten gut; und dennoch bringt jeder Tag Berichte über Strikes für höhere Löhne, weniger Arbeitsstunden oder wegen der Weigerung, lieber eine vernünftige Lohnerniedrigung anzunehmen, als eine gänzliche Sperrung der Fabriken rbeizuführen." Und nun werden die verschiede nen Unverschämtheiten angeführt, welche sich die Trades Unions zu schulden kommen lassen. Es wird gesagt, daß in Fall River die Striker lieber hungern und gar nicht arbeiten, anstatt für $5 die Woche zu arbeiten; es wird darüber geklagt, daß in Pensylvanien die Union-Kohlengräber so stark seien, daß sie die Bosse zwingen, die Ungarn zu entlassen, welche doch so fleißig und genügsam seien und stets bereit wären, für irgend einen Lohn zu arbeiten: daß in Chicago die Painters $3 den Tag verlangen, was eine unvernünftige und unzeitgemäße Forderung genannt wird 2c.

Dieses Geschreibsel ist natürlich für die kapitalistischen Arbeitgeber bestimmt und ganz der gewöhnlichen Anschauung derselben angepaßt. Ihnen gefällt dies und dem Schreiber bezahlt sich's — so ist beiden geholfen. Für das arbeitende Volk muß aber daraus die Ueberzeugung erwachsen, daß eine Aenderung in unseren miserablen, unsicheren wirthschaftlichen Verhältnissen nur gegen den Willen der Kapitalisten durchgeführt werden kann. Es ist auffallend, daß in dem Artikel gar nichts von der Möbel-Industrie erwähnt ist. Offenbar konnte der Artikelschreiber von dort keine Beweise für die Unterstützung seiner Theorie, daß Verringerung der Löhne ein Mittel gegen Geschäftsstockung sei, hervarholen. Denn wenn unbedingte Unterordnung unter die Gebote der Fabrikanten den Arbeitern zum Nutzen gereichte, so müßte bei den Möbelarbeitern, von denen noch die große Mehrzahl zu keiner Organisation gehört, sich dies zeigen. Aber statt dessen finden wir, daß hier den Arbeitern trotz der zum Theil lächerlich geringen Löhne eine anhaltende Beschäftigung nicht gesichert ist, sondern daß die Fabriken von Zeit zu Zeit geschlossen werden trotz der gutwillig angenommenen Lohnreduktionen, und daß Bankerotte trotz der lächerlich geringen Arbeitspreise fortwährend vorkommen.

Es ist erstaunlich, mit welcher unverschämten Dreistigkeit von Seiten Derjenigen, welche nicht für Lohn arbeiten, fortwährend niedrige Löhne als Grundlage jeder Prosperität hingestellt wird, während doch Erfahrung und gesunder Menschenverstand das Gegentheil lehren. Als im Jahre 1873 die Krisis ausbrach, die Arbeitslöhne um 30—40 Prozent verringert wurden und zahlreiche Gewerkschaften aufhörten zu existiren, da war dies keineswegs im Stande, die Krisis zu mildern; im Gegentheil, dieselbe wurde um so verheerender und andauernder, da die geringen Löhne dem Volk nicht gestatteten, nach Bedürfniß zu konsumiren, weßhalb die Produktion immer mehr beschränkt werden mußte.

Weit davon entfernt, Geschäftsstockungen herbeizuführen oder zu verlängern, ist die Aufrechterhaltung der Arbeitslöhne ein Mittel, dieselben zu vermeiden oder zu verkürzen. Daß die gegenwärtige Krisis noch nicht so schlimme Folgen gehabt hat, als die im Jahre 1873, daran ist nicht zum Wenigsten der Umstand schuld, über welchrn sich jener kapitalistische Schreibersknecht beklagt, nämlich daß die Gewerkvereine besser organisirt sind und nicht widerstandslos in eine Reduzirung der Arbeitslöhne willigen. Es ist nicht wahrscheinlich, daß die Fabrikanten und die ganze herrschende Klasse in dieser Hinsicht einer besseren Ueberzeugung Raum geben wird, wie es auch nicht wahrscheinlich ist, daß die Fabrikanten die Ansicht aufgeben, daß eine blühenden Industrie nur bei möglichst geringen Löhnen, auf dem gekrümmten Rücken eines hungernden Arbeiterstandes gedeihen kann. In dieser Hinsicht sind sie als Klasse unverbesserlich. Wir hoffen aber, daß die Arbeiter immer mehr ihre wirklichen Interessen erkennen und sich nicht durch falsche Vorspielungen von Anwendung der richtigen Mittel zur Förderung derselben abwenden lassen.

Nicht fürchtet der Arbeiter unter den jetzigen Verhältnissen mehr als Arbeitslosigkeit. Deßhalb sind immer noch Viele geneigt, da wo sie zwischen Lohnreduktion und Arbeitslosigkeit zu wählen haben, die erstere als das kleinere Uebel zu betrachten. Daß sie damit im Irrthum sind, lehrt die Erfahrung, denn reduzirte Löhne, verringerter Verdienst, führen erst recht zur Arbeitslosigkeit. Eine zeitweilige gänzliche Einstellung des Betriebes eines Industriezweiges ist unter den jetzigen Verhältnissen weniger nachtheilig für die Arbeiter als fortgesetzter Betrieb bei reduzirten Löhnen. Im letzteren Fall wird das Uebel immer größer, während es sich im letzteren sich bald von selbst aufhebt.
(Möbel-Arb.-Journal.)

Gewerks Neuigkeiten.

—Die Treppenbauer in Baltimore werden nach dem 1. Mai $ 3 per Tag verlangen.

—Die neuen Geheimzeichen, Reisepaßworte 2c. sind den Unions übersandt worden, ebenso der Finanzbericht für das letzte Quartal.

—Die Zimmerer Union von Deutschland hat jetzt nahezu 3000 Mitglieder, Unionen in 33 Städten und ist in raschem Wachsen begriffen.

— Nach dem März Bericht der Amalgamated Corporators haben dieselben 402 Branches und 23,259 Mitglieder. Das Geschäft in England und Holland geht sehr schlecht, ebenso in Australien Neu Seeland und Süd Afrika.

—Es würde sehr weise sein, wenn wir die Beiträge der während der stillen Zeit im Winter beschäftigungslosen Mitglieder remittiren wollten. Das würde sie veranlassen, uns treu zu bleiben und uns nicht zu verlassen, wenn sie im Rückstande gekommen sind.

—Charter sind kürzlich bewilligt worden für Savannah, Ga.; Omaha, Neb.; Benicia, Cal.; Covington, Ky.; Denver, Col. und Los Angeles, Cal. Neue Unionen sind zu Columbia, S. C.; Maysville, Ky.; Hammond, Ind.; Utica, N. Y.; und Tacoma, W. T. in der Bildung begriffen.

— Die Arbeit für Carpenter war letzten Winter sehr flau — schlimmer als während der letzten 4 Jahre und dennoch hatte fast in allen Fällen die Mitglieder unserer Union beständig Arbeit. Allem Anscheine nach werden die Geschäfte in diesem Frühjahr sehr gut gehen.

— Die Charter der Unions No. 6, 12, 14 zu St. Louis sind zurückgenommen und eine neue Union ist gegründet und gechartert worden, welche die No. 5 erhalten hat und aus den besten Elementen in der Stadt zusammengesetzt ist. Die Agitation in St. Louis ist sehr rege und es sind die besten Aussichten vorhanden, daß St. Louis binnen kurzem wieder eine starke Organisation haben wird.

— Unsere Konstitution und Lokalen Geschäftsregeln bedürfen sehr der Abänderung. Jetzt ist die Zeit, die Sache anzugreifen und gründlich zu diskutiren, bevor die Konvention zusammentritt und nicht bis auf den letzten Augenblick zu warten, um dann die Beschlüsse Hals über Kopf durch zu putschen. Manche verlangen, das Sterbegeld soll von $ 250 auf $ 100 herabgesetzt werden und behaupten, daß kleine Summen prompter bezahlt werden, als große.

Wir sind im Besitz einer Lieferung neuer, deutscher Konstitutionen. Schickt Eure Orders bald ein, wenn Ihr noch welche haben wollt.

— In Frankreich hat die Parlaments-Enquete mit der Vernehmung von Delegirten der Zimmerleute ihren Anfang gemacht. Diese sagten aus, daß von 5000 Arbeitern 3500 gar nicht oder nur ungenügend beschäftigt seien.

— Die dänische Arbeiterbewegung macht außerordentliche Fortschritte. In Kopenhagen existirt eine ausgedehnte und fast auf alle Branchen sich erstreckende gewerkschaftliche Organisation, und hat deren Organ, genannt „Socialdemokraten", jetzt bereits die überraschende Ziffer von 13,000 Abonnenten erreicht. Die sociale Bewegung hat durch den Umstand, daß die Studirenden und viele Männer der Wissenschaft mit ihr sympathisiren, bestimmt an Einfluß bedeutend gewonnen, und hofft man bei den nächsten Wahlen mehrere Kandidaten zum Reichstage durchzubringen.

— In Berlin nimmt die Arbeitslosigkeit der Männer von Tag zu Tag immer größere Dimensionen an, Aussicht auf Abhilfe ist aber nirgends zu erblicken. Nachmittags 4 Uhr erscheint das „Berliner Intelligenzblatt", und Hunderte von Arbeitern warten schon vor der Druckerei auf die Herausgabe des Blattes, überfliegen dessen Inhalt, und es entsteht ein wahres Wettlaufen, wenn eine Stellung frei ist. Es haben sich mehrfach „Lesehallen" gebildet, wo für 5 Pfennig sämmtliche Zeitungen zur Benutzung ausliegen, und werden diese Lesehallen namentlich von dem arbeitsuchenden Publikum sehr stark frequentirt. Nicht zum wenigsten ist die Konkurrenz der Frauen an dem Arbeitsmangel der Männer Schuld.

Brüderschafts-Notizen.

— Die deutsche Haus Framer's Union in dieser Stadt wird am 1. Mai d. J. eine Lohnerhöhung von 25 Cents verlangen.

—Die Germantowner Branch von Union No. 8 zu Philadelphia hat eine eigene Halle und freien Zeichenunterricht für ihre Mitglieder.

—In Ruschville, Ind., organisiren die Union No. 39 und in Bemicia, Cal., die Union No. 53 Kooperativ-Carpenter Shops unter ihrer eigenen Jurisdiktion.

—Die Pacificküste ist mit Carpenters und Handwerkern aus anderen Staaten überfüllt, ein Uebelstand, über den unsere dortigen Unions sich schwer beklagen.

—Reisende Mitglieder sollten, bevor sie ihre Reise antreten, sich von ihren Unions Reisekarten geben lassen, wenn sie nicht in Unannehmlichkeiten gerathen wollen.

—In fast jeder größeren Stadt unseres Landes sind Baugewerkschafts Leaguen gegründet worden und unsere Unionen haben bei der Gründung regen Antheil genommen.

—Die Carpenters' Union von Cincinnati zog ihre Gelder aus der Western German Bank jener Stadt, weil dieselbe im „Volksfreund", einem Scabblatt, das geboycottet wird, anzeigte.

—Manitoba ist überfüllt mit halbverhungerten und mittellosen Arbeitern, die keine Beschäftigung haben. Eisenbahn- und Land-Spekulanten haben die Leute nach jener Gegend gelockt.

—Unsere deutschen Brüder sollten uns für unser Journal deutsche Korrespondenzen schicken. Wenn sie es nicht thun, ist es ihre eigene Schuld, daß nicht mehr deutscher Lesestoff veröffentlicht wird.

—Die Union No. 18 zu Hamilton hat eine Werkzeug Versicherung und Kranken-Unterstützungkasse, wie die Mehrzahl unserer Unions sie haben. Die Beiträge sind in den meisten Fällen 50 Cents per Monat.

—Unter den Handwerkern in Neu Seeland herrscht große Noth. Tausende sind arbeitslos und trotzdem wird das Uebel von der [illegible] Regierung verschlimmert, indem sie [illegible] wanderung auf Neu Seeland begü[illegible]

—Finanz-Sekretäre und Beamte von Lokal-Unionen, welche Briefpapier mit dem Wahrzeichen der Brüderschaft, Monats-Berichts-Formulare, Konstitutionen u. s. w. benöthigen, wollen den General-Sekretär sofort benachrichtigen.

— Oeffentliche Versammlungen unserer Unions werden jetzt häufiger als früher gehalten und überall haben sie während des Winters, trotz der schlechten Zeiten, zugenommen. Wir hatten dieses Jahr im Februar 1141 Mitglieder mehr als im Februar 1883.

—Wenn nicht Union No. 2 es verhindert hätte, würden in diesem Frühjahr die Löhne in Cincinnati reducirt worden sein. Die Bosse hatten schon unter sich abgemacht, daß eine Reduction stattfinden solle, da aber sprang Union No. 2 ein und es werden jetzt Massenversammlungen abgehalten, um gegen die Bosse stramm Front zu machen.

—Die Finanz-Sekretäre und Schatzmeister der Lokal-Unionen sollten es nicht versäumen, Assetzments für Todesfälle sofort einzusenden, wenn es vom General Sekretär verlangt wird. Für Verzögerung gibt's in solchen Fällen keine Entschuldigung — solche Assetzments müssen sofort eingeschickt werden.

— Unsere Brüderschaft sollte mehr darauf achten, neue Unions in gründen und zu diesem Zwecke sollte während der guten Geschäftszeit ein Mann als General-Organisator ausgeschickt werden. Die Cigarrenmacher und andere Internationale Unions thun das auch und es bezahlt sich gut für sie, denn fortwährend gewinnen sie neue Unions und Mitglieder.

— Auf Grund der Konstitution und auf Anweifung vom Exekutiv Board hat Union 8 zu Philadelphia folgende Beamte der Brüderschaft gewählt: General-Schatzmeister, John Gillespie; Trustees, John D. Allen, W. F. Eberhard und Richard J. Roß. Diese Beamten haben zu fungiren, bis ihre Nachfolger auf Anordnung der nächsten Konvention gewählt sein werden.

—Am 1. Mai werden die Carpenters unter Jurisdiktion der Unions in Portland, Oregon, Benicia, Cal.; Alemada, Cal. Seattle, Washington Territory, striken um einen 9stündigen Arbeitstag zu erreichen. In Victoria, Brittisch Columbia, standen sie am 1. März aus und wurde ihnen die 9 Stunden zugestanden; somit arbeiten die Carpenter in San Francisco, Oakland, San Rafael und Victoria nur noch 9 Stunden.

Arbeiter-Notizen aus dem Lande.

— In Hopkinton, Mass., haben 100 am Bau der neuen Wasserwerke beschäftigten Männer wegen eines mißliebigen Werkführers die Arbeit eingestellt.

— In Troy, N. Y., weigerten sich die Mounters in der Clinton Ofenfabrik mit nicht zur Union gehörenden Leuten zu arbeiten und die Werke blieben infolge dessen geschlossen.

— Aus Pittsburg wird gemeldet, im 4. Pool hätten die Kohlengruben-Besitzer eine Lohnreduktion von ¼ Cent per Bushel angeordnet. Im 2. Pool legten die Kohlengräber in den Camden & Alleguippa Minen wegen einer gleichen Lohnreduktion die Arbeit nieder. Walten & Co. wollen ihre Minen im 1. und 2. Pool nächste Woche schließen, wodurch 1000 Kohlengräber beschäftigungslos werden würden.

— Infolge einer von den Minenbesitzern beabsichtigten Lohnreduktion befürchtet man unter den Kohlengräbern im Hocking Valley, Ohio, ernstliche Ruhestörungen, da die von Reduktion betroffenen Leute sich derselben nicht fügen wollen und erklärt haben, daß sie sich einer angekündigten Importation von Ungarn, die im Weigerungsfalle ihre Stellung einnehmen sollen, auf das hartnäckigste widersetzen würden.

— Die Brodfrage zeitigt auch in England wunderbare Erscheinungen. „Vor wenigen Jahren" — schreibt die Londoner „Justice" — kostete das Mehl 60 Sh. der Sack, während die Bäcker denselben Preis für das Brod forderten, wie jetzt, wobei sie ganz gut zu lebeu hatten. Jetzt ist der Preis für Mehl 32 Sh. pro Sack, so daß die Zwischenhändler bei jedem Sack Mehl 28 Sh. einstecken, abgesehen von dem Profit, den sie früher machten.

— In Nordböhmen (Bodenbach, Tetschen 2c.) liegen ca. 7000 Arbeiter der Textil-Industrie (meist Spinner) im Streik. Durch allerhand Maßregelungen veranlaßt, stellten die Arbeiter der Preidel'schen Fabriken in Rebstein die Arbeit ein und verlangten eine Herabsetzung des Arbeitstages von 12 auf 10 Stunden und Lohnerhöhungen von 10—40 Prozent. Da die Fabrikanten des ganzen Industriebezirkes mit [illegible] to its ca[illegible]idel gemeinsame Sache machten, so schlossen die Arbeiter gleichfals ihren Kollegen an. —It is not [illegible] Y.

Die Stimmung der Strikenden ist eine vortreffliche, doch fehlt es sehr an Mitteln zur Unterstützung.

— Der Strike in Anzin (Frankreich) dauert noch immer fort. Die Grubenarbeiter ertragen willig das größte Elend, um den Forderungen der Kompagnie nicht nachgeben zu müssen. In den zahlreichen Versammlungen der Strikenden werden die Gewaltthaten, welche nach den Berichten der Bourgeoispresse gegen Nichtstriker hier und da verübt worden sind, entschieden gemißbilligt und als das Werk bezahlter Agenten hingestellt, da nicht den Arbeitern, sondern der Kompagnie daran gelegen ist, Tumulte zu provoziren, und damit die Heranziehung von Truppen zu veranlassen.

Die Stimmung gegen die Nichtstriker ist natürlich eine sehr gereizte, namentlich zeigen ihnen die Frauen offen ihre Verachtung.

Oeffentliche Versammlungen.

Am 21. Januar hielt General Sekretär P. J. McGuire eine Ansprache an die Arbeiter zu Halifax in Nova Scotia und die Folge davon wird sein, daß sich die dortige Carpenters-Union unserer Brüderschaft anschließt. Letzten Monat besuchte McGuire Canada und es gelang ihm, [illegible]n Unions in Toronto, Guelph und Hamilton Verstärkung zuzuführen. Am 7. April sprach er in Boston und am 9. in Hartford.

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Man abonnirt durch Einsendung von 90 Cts. auf das ganze Jahr.
Adresse ist:
Zeitschrift der Zimmerkunst
Berlin. 36. Germany.
Die Expedition.

DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

JOHN KLOSS, a member in good standing of San Francisco Union No, 22, died March 30th, aged 53, of Rheumatism. Assessment No.16 00.

WILLIAM DICKEY, a member of Portland Union No. 50, died March 31st, aged 25, of Chronic Diarrhoea. Assessment No.17.00

BLACK LIST.

I am directed to notify you to place on your Black List the names of ANTHONY WELSH and HUGH CRAIG. They have been expelled from Union No. 38 for non-payment of dues, also for being genuine unadulterated scabs of the first water. Please publish them in our official paper, THE CARPENTER.

ED. C. NICHOLSON,
Fin. Sec'y of Union No. 38, of St. Catherines, Canada.

PETER DERIDER and JOHN ROSSCAMP are scabs and have been expelled from Victoria Union No. 48, for working on jobs declared on strike.

G. H. WISER has been expelled from Union No. 50, Portland, Oregon, for hiring non-union men.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Indianapolis, Ind.

Work fair; wages $2.25—$2.50, some at $2.00. Union No. 15 is holding its own.

Toronto, Canada.

Trade rather dull, although the spring weather has opened splendidly; the prospects however are pretty fair.

Alexandria, Minn.

There will be a good deal of building here this Summer for this little place, several handsome brick blocks will be erected; excavations are now being made for them. Wages here at present are $2.50, with the prospect of an additional 25 cents a month later.

Guelph, Canada.

Union No. 46 of this city has made a demand upon their employers for a standard days pay of $2.00 per day. We request all carpenters to give Guelph a wide berth until the trouble is settled. The question of raising the dues to 60 cents per month is under close discussion among our members.

San Francisco, Cal.

Trade is improving fast in this city within these last three or four weeks, but has received a slig[ht] set-back during the last six or seven days as [it] has rained every day and night and is st[ill] ing, so that buildings not under roof are standing still, and of coure, those employed on them are on the streets.

San Rafael, Cal.

This Winter has been a very dull one, and there is not much work under way now, as the heavy rains have been keeping back a good deal of work. Wages hold firm. The family of our late Bro. S. Sorenson has been paid the $250 death benefit due them. The following members have been suspended for non-payment, viz: Henry Generous, Allan M. West and G. A. T. Clayton.

Milwaukee ,Wis.

Trade dull, prospects fair. Wages $1.25 to $2.50. Union No. 30 is just holding its own; a little more energy should be shown by the members, and then the union might grow to be of some influence more generally in the trade of this city. The situation is hard, and the journeymen outside of the union seem to be a hopeless set. Nevertheless we should strain every nerve this Spring to push ahead the good work.

Denver, Col.

Our union is progressing nicely. Work is very slack in Denver, and not much prospect ahead that can be seen. Carpenters had better steer clear of here for the present. There is not work enough for even old residents, good mechanics too. The Denver & South Park R. R. and the N. P. R. R. laid off nearly all their hands a few days ago, which makes things worse. Wages for carpenters about $2.50 per day. Cost of living away up past our reach.

Hartford, Conn.

The Carpenters' Union No. 43 gave a free lecture in Allyn Hall on April 9. We had a very fair audience, considering the night was very rainy. President Brooks opened the meeting with a few appropriate remarks, and introduced P, J. McGuire, of New York, our General Secretary, who spoke for about an hour, introducing some good points on the labor question not often heard of in this city. He closed his remarks by saying that every man ought to belong to a trades union. Messrs. Pine and Goodacre were called upon by the audience; those gentlemen responded and did ample justice to the labor question.

Baltimore, Md.

Union No. 29 is progressing favorably. I think it would be a good thing if a weekly sick benefit was introduced in all unions, although of course I am not capable of judging what is best for other unions as for Union No. 29; though I am satisfied it would be a great benefit to us. The last Monday in March we had a public meeting, it was a success. Addresses were made by Bros. G. Edmonston of Washington Union No. 1, MacNamara and Page of Union No. 29, and Mr. Camper, President of our Trades Federation.

Trade is fair with only a fair prospect—nothing extra, but things may look different in a few weeks.

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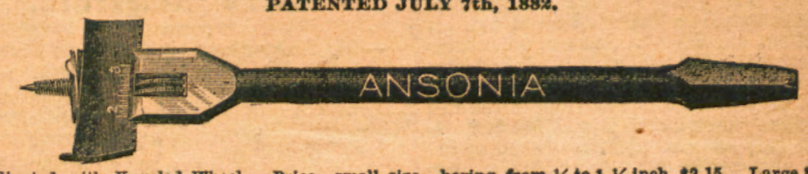

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, JUNE, 1884. NUMBER 6.

A WESTERN TRIP.

On May 15th, General Secretary P. J. McGuire left New York direct for Chicago after repeated calls from that quarter for his assistance. General President Bro. McGinley and our 1st Vice-President Bro. Thos. P. Blair ordered him to that field of action. His presence was of great service and in many ways he rendered great aid to the strike both by advice and work. Several large public meetings were held at which he spoke very effectively. On May 23d, in company with General President McGinley and a few members of Union No. 21, he visited Englewood, Ill., where a public meeting was held, and nearly every carpenter in the town was present. That led to the organization of Union No. 60.

With Gen. President McGinley, he next proceeded to Hammond, Ind., May 27th, where by some misunderstanding the members of Union No. 56 were not to be found. After a long search on the next day the members were met and arrangements made for a subsequent meeting, which took place and was well attended.

Our General Secretary visited Indianapolis on May 28, and addressed an audience of 3000 in English's Opera House. Various trades were represented and the delegates to the Greenback Convention were present. On the 30th he was in Cincinnati, and found no arrangements made in view of the festival of the Union on June 1st which would draw out a large crowd. So it was thereupon agreed he should return there on June 1st. The 31st of May he was in Columbus, Ohio, and addressed a very creditable meeting, whereupon Union No. 61 was organizad with over 35 members. Returning *via* Cincinnati, he was in Chicago June 2d, and was the principal speaker in that memorable meeting that night in Battery D. Hall, where 10,000 persons assembled to protest against the unfair course of the N. Y. *Tribune* to its employes. And be it known that that meeting was the instrument of forcing the Republican party to adopt the labor planks it has in its platform this campaign.

Washington, Baltimore and Trenton were also visited on his home journey, reports of the meetings in those cities are to be found in our correspondence. Tired and jaded after four weeks' absence, he is again at his post as General Secretary, and wishes to thank the many friends who have shown him courtesies on the road, and he begs the indulgence of those whose letters were not attended to in his absence.

CARPENTERS' WAGES.

The average daily wages of carpenters this season in the various localities are: In Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire $2 per day: Massachusetts and Connecticut, $2.25 to $2.50; Rhode Island, $2 to $2.25; New York, $2.50; New Jersey and Pennsylvania, $2.25; Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, $2 to $3; Jacksonville, Florida, $2.50 to $3; Tennessee, $2.25 to $3; Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, $2.50; Michigan $2—$2.50. In the Northwestern States 5 to 15 per cent. more than in the Central States. Montana, $3.50; Colorado $2.50—$2.75; Texas, $2.50—$3. In Maryland, Delaware and Virginia wages are lower than anywhere else. The market is overcrowded with carpenters in all States.

—Indianapolis workingmen are boycotting the Indianapolis *Journal*—a rat sheet. They issue 6000 copies weekly of *The Labor Signal*, which shows up all the patrons and supporters of the *Journal*, and does them up in a clever style.

THE CHICAGO STRIKE WON.

After many weeks' deliberation, Chicago Union No. 21 decided to make a demand for $3 per day as the standard wage, and on May 5th, that rule was ordered to go into effect. The result was, many of the bosses granted it at once; others held out against it. An Executive Strike Committee was elected by the union, and Headquarters established at Seaman's Hall, 99 West Randolph street. There every day the committee held its sessions; the city was subdivided into 12 districts, and a sub-committee of five for each district was sent out to visit the various jobs and urge the men working for less to demand $3 per day. These committees were composed of active men who worked so faithfully that in ten days the union rate of $3 per day was secured for fully 2,000 men in the city. One of the greatest obstacles the strike had to contend with was that there was no brick in the market, and many of the jobs were at a standstill. But for all that the movement was so successful that on May 26, the strike was closed by unanimous vote of the union and declared to be successful—so that the strike lasted in all only three weeks, while on the very first week all the union men with few exceptions had already got the $3 per day.

The strike cost the union fully $2,500 in strike pay, etc., and although it made no official appeal legally to the unions, it wishes to thank those who voluntarily sent it financial aid, *viz:* Washington Union No. 1, $50; St. Catherines Union, No. 38, $15; Hamilton Union, No. 18, $10; and G. Edmonston, Washington, D. C., $5. The strike added in round numbers over 350 members to the union and has led to the establishment of a labor bureau for the union and a "walking delegate." The following Chicago unions assisted us: Bricklayers, $500; Cigarmakers, $30.

The Chicago Branch of the Amalgamated Carpenters acted with us in the strike. General Secretary P. J. McGuire, of New York, was telegraphed for and spent two weeks in our midst, rendering us very valuable aid by counsel, work and public meetings. All around the suburbs of the city have been stirred up to organize Carpenters' Unions by means of our movement. Englewood, Ill., is an example, and Hyde Park will be next.

A BRICKLAYERS' HALL.

The projected hall to be built by the Bricklayers' Union of Philadelphia, will be located at Broad street and Fairmount avenue, and will cost from $18,000 to $20,000. The brickmakers of that city have kindly donated the brick to be used in its construction, while each and every member of the union is to give one day's wages toward the general fund from which other expenses are to be drawn. In height the hall will be three stories; the ground floor to be arranged for stores.

REMARKABLE PROGRESS.

In his sketch of "Trades Unionism," Thomas Hughes has just shown the remarkable progress made by the English workingmen in organization, which has enormously increased their power to affect wages and influence legislation. He looks forward to the time when the working classes, having found out their power, will gradually or otherwise accomplish an industrial and political revolution, which will sweep away useless State burdens and transfer to the workers the surplus wealth now appropriated, in the form of rent and profit, by landlords and employers.

CHIPS AND SAWDUST.

—The Onio State Labor Convention, on June 24, promises to be a large gathering, and doubtlessly will prove of value to the industrial classes of that State.

—A man who is not opposed to the contract system in penal institutions should never be recognized by the honest workingman, much less voted for.

—The National Eight Hour law is now being enforced in some of the Government Departments, very likely because the Presidential election is approaching.

—Of such benefit has unionism been, that the bosses of the free stone and marble cutting trades of Baltimore have lately requested their union men to use all possible means to get every non-union man into the ranks.

—The International Typographical Union held its annual Convention in New Orleans at the beginning of this month, and it was well attended. The question of joining the Knights of Labor as a body was defeated by a decisive majority.

—Our friend, Thos. A. Armstrong, of the Pittsburgh *Labor Tribune*, we understand is a heavy loser in the suspension of the Penn Bank of that city, yet we are gratified to know it will not materially effect the standing of his worthy journal.

—Ralph Beaumont, of Elmira, N. Y., the journeyman shoemaker, well known in union circles, starts from Bangor, Me., July 3, to walk to California, delivering a labor speech each day at some town on his journey. He proposes to make 20 miles per day.

—Boycotting has become a powerful engine for good in the hands of united labor against unfair employers and the pronounced enemies of workingmen. Not less than two score of boycotts are now in operation against "rat" papers and tyrannical concerns.

—The Iron Molders and Cigar Makers of Cincinnati are making a brave stand against the attempts of their bosses to break up these two unions. A lockout seems to have no terrors for them, as they have each a powerful International Union of their own trade to back them.

—In Minneapolis, Minn., there are six "co-operative" cooper shops in successful operation, but we understand they are on the joint partnership principle—which is far from being co-operative. There are a good many more such concerns sailing under false colors in other trades throughout the States.

—We are in receipt of the first annual report of the Michigan Labor Bureau, compiled by John W. McGrath, Commissioner, and John Devlin, as Deputy. The work gives every indication of great care and thoroughness in its preparation, and what is more, it is not published as a vehicle to crush the labor interests.

—An International Congress of Glass Workers was held in Junet, Belgium, on the 5th inst. America, England, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy were represented. The Window Glass Workers' National Union of America have taken the lead in this matter and sent delegates to Europe to arouse the countries mentioned into holding an International Congress.

—The fourth annual session of the American Federation of Trades and Labor Unions will be held in Chicago, Ill., Tuesday, Oct. 7, 1884. Our Brotherhood is connected with the Federation and was represented by Bro. G. Edmonston, Washington, D. C., in the New York convention last year.

TRADE NOTES.

—Cincinnati Stair Builders asked an increase in wages, which they managed to put into effect on June 3d.

—The parade of the Cincinnati trades unions on the 8th inst., bids fair to call out fully 10.000 men in line.

—Connecticut has organized a State Trades Assembly so that now the majority of States are organized in that manner.

—Boycott the Sandusky Tool Company! Don't buy any tools of their make as they forbid their employes to join a labor union.

—The spinners of Fall River have closed their strike after being out four months, and after spending $22,000 in strike benefits.

—A strike of the Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers was avoided on June 1st by the employers signing the usual scale of wages for the year.

—This city is crowded with carpenters, and yet they still keep flocking in from all parts. We advise our members to stay away from New York.

—Wages for carpenters in Parkersburgh, W. Va., are from $1.75 to $2.25 per day. The B. & O. R. R. only pays $1.50 to $1.75 to its carpenters.

—It is not true that there is a strike of the bricklayers and masons in Chicago as is reported. There has been no difficulty in that trade there this season.

—The Carpenters' Union of Chicago at a meeting Monday night, declared the strike in Chicago at an end, the demand for an advance being conceeded by practically all the bosses.

—"The Cooperative Commonwealth," by Lawrence Gronlund, published by Lee & Sheppard, Boston, Mass., is a new book full of instructive matter connected with the labor question. Price, one dollar.

—Ex-Gov. English, of Connecticut, who started out in life as a carpenter, is now worth $6,000,000, and is the richest man in the State, says an exchange. But you can bet your life he never would have earned the one thousandth part of it as a journeyman carpenter.

—Sunday Morning *Herald*, St. Paul, Minn., says: The building season is rather an active one among the bricklayers and carpenters, though St. Paul can spare any number of either craft, and especially the latter, and have plenty left.

—It is reported that business in New Orleans is very dull, and only for the work on the Exposition Building hard times would be the rule. About 400 men are at work on it, and the city is overcrowded with men. Wages from $2.25 to $2.75; many at the former figures.

—Typographical Union, No. 17, of New Orleans, has a way of compelling members to attend meetings that it would be well for all unions everywhere to adopt. Any member missing a meeting, unless sickness caused his absence, is fined twenty-five cents, and he or she is compelled to pay it, or they cannot get their card.

—The Glass Workers have three separate organizations, viz: the window glass, the flint glass and the bottle workers. The latter stop work during the months of June and July, and thereby restrict production, thus enhancing their wages. When they work, their hours of labor average eight and a half hours per day. There is no hope for any trade unless they reduce the hours of labor, and fairly divide the work to be done among the men of the trade.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1884.

THE SONG OF THE WAGE-SLAVE.

The land it is the landlords',
  The traders' is the sea,
The ore the usurers' coffer fills,
  But what remains for me?
The engine whirls for master's craft,
  The steel shines to defend,
With labor's arms, what labor raised,
  For labor's foe to spend,
The camp, the pulpit, and the law,
  For rich men's sons are free;
Theirs, theirs, are learning, art, and arms;
  But what remains for me?
    The coming hope, the future day,
      When wrong to right shall bow,
    And hearts that have the courage, man,
      To make that future *now*.

I pay for all their learning,
  I toil for all their ease;
They render back in coin for coin,
  Want, ignorance, disease;—
Toil—toil—and then, a cheerless home,
  Where hungry passions cross;
Eternal gain to them, that give
  To me eternal loss!
The hour of leisure happiness
  The rich alone may see;
The playful child, the smiling wife—
  But what remains for me!
    The coming hope, the future day,
      When wrong to right shall bow;
    And hearts that have the courage, man,
      To make that future *now*.

They render back, those rich men,
  A pauper's niggard fee,
Mayhap a prison—then a grave,
  And think they're quits with me;
But not a fond wife's heart that breaks—
  A poor man's child that dies,
We score not on our hollow cheeks
  And in our sunken eyes,
We read it there—where'er we meet,
  And as the sum we see,
Each asks, "The rich have got the earth,
  And what remains for me?"
    The coming hope, the future day,
      When wrong to right shall bow,
    And hearts that have the courage, man,
      To make that future *now*.

We bear the wrong in silence,
  We store it in our brain;
They think us dull, they think us dead;
  But we shall rise again:
A trumpet through the lands will ring;
  A heaving through the mass;
A trampling through their palaces,
  Until they break like glass:
We'll cease to weep by cherished graves,
  From lonely homes will flee,
And still as rolls our million march,
  Its watchword brave shall be:—
    The coming hope, the future day,
      When wrong to right shall bow,
    And hearts that have the courage, man,
      To make that future *now*.

ERNEST JONES.

A FEW QUESTIONS.

Unorganized wage worker you who work 12, 14 or 16 hours a day for a mere subsistence, did you ever think of the fact that the organized workers get nearly twice as much wages as you for little over half as many hours toil? Do you believe that plasterers, bricklayers, stonecutters and many other trades could get from $20 to $25 a week, and glassblowers as high as $40 a week if they were not organized? Don't you know that were you organized, and your hours of labor cut down from 8 to 9 hours a day at higher wages, it would not only give you steadier employment, but would make room for your brothers who are now idle! This is not all; the increased wage fund would enable you and them to buy and consume the merchandise and wares on hand and in shops, or rather prevent that terrible "over-production" demon from starving you and your families. Here is something for you to think of and talk to your neighbor about.—*Free Press.*

STIRRING WORDS BY A MARTYR OF THE PROLETARIAT.

We forget that no capitalist created his own capital, that he is but one man with one man's rights—rights no better than the poorest workman he employs—and that the capital he holds represents the labor of many thousands, the thought of many thousands, the life of many thousands who have grown poor while making him rich, poor as the decay of strength produces the decline of earnings; till, but too often, the workhouse door closes upon the busy scenes of life, and opens 'ere long on the darker but far less sorrowful portal of the grave. And hereon Political Economy cooly tells you of the capitalist that he has found a living for these working men, whereas it is the working men who have found, not only a living, but redundant and superfluous wealth for him."

WHY DO WORKMEN STRIKE.

To suppose that workmen do not do so from sincere motives and for causes they deem sufficient to justify the sacrifices which must necessarily ensue, is to presume that they are not capable of reasoning or self-control. Few men are bold enough to advocate strikes at all. Most leaders and thinkers among workmen, especially in trades unions, will be found adverse to strikes; and organizations, which make provisions in their laws to maintain them when they do occur usually have counter laws which deprecate them. Workmen have learned by experience that strikes are a very expensive and inconvenient method of settling a dispute, and not to be undertaken except as a last resort; but unless they are willing to put themselves entirely at the mercy of employers, they must, in some way, assert their rights; and heretofore there has been no other way except to fight for them. The idea that the generality of employers can be relied on to offer spontaneously an increase of wages whenever profits are such as to warrant it, has proved a delusion. During an observation of thirty years, covering a period of three general depressions in business, when wages were reduced to the lowest point, we can call to mind but few instances where employers made advances of wages on the recurrence of better times, unless induced by more or less forcible demands on the part of the workmen.

In 1863 glassware advanced nearly one hundred per cent. in price, yet no advance of wages took place until 1864, the workmen demanded an increase; but even then the advance was in no way proportionate to the increase of profits to the employers, because the workers at the time were not advised in regard to the true state of the market. And it will generally be found that on nearly all occasions where wages have been advanced, it was the result of concerted movement among workmen. A case of where an employer has become conscience-stricken, in consequence of having made too large a profit, would be a rarity indeed, and a voluntary advance of wages by employers nearly an exception.—*N. J. Labor Bureau.*

STOP GRUMBLING.

We advise workingmen to cease growling and grumbling about their condition. Complaining about their boss's actions will do you no good, and will not do him much, if any, harm. It will only earn for you the contempt for all high-spirited people. If you really desire to do away with the causes of disaffection and of growling and of grumbling, and if you really mean to set to work courageously to improve your condition, you will organize in trades and labor unions. Your grievances are great and many, but they will last just so long as you growl and remain unorganized. Your only hope is in "organization." The best paid men in the United States to-day, and indeed in all parts of the so-called civilized world, are the organized men. Organization leads to co-operation, to fraternity, to mutual help, to intelligence, to reason, to peace, and last, but not least, to power.—*Rochester Express.*

THE BROTHERHOOD OF UNION.

"It is only a few ages since labor was deemed not worthy of pay—men were slaves to riches; but with the enlightenment of a few centuries ago labor rose from the bondage of slavery, and it did this through the Guilds, or Unions, that rich manufacterers are seeking by every means, fair or foul, to destroy. As civilization advanced wages increased, while the profits of employer advanced also; the laborer, with less hours and more skill, becomes a peer of his employer, and is a good and enlightened citizen. This has come through the brotherhood of Union. There is great need to the man who devotes his life to becoming superior in a trade, and binds himself to one occupation, to resist with all his strength any attempt to take from him the rights acquired after ages of suffering. The intelligence of the Unions recognize this, and their vast power will give them success.—*Quincy (Ill.) Daily News.*

—The most degraded slaves are the last to demand freedom. The worst-paid labor is the slowest to organize in its own interest. Those who have tasted freedom demand still greater liberty, while the most abject slave is always loathe to join in the cause of liberty.—*Toledo Record.*

APPRENTICES.

Why is it that in all trades so many incompetent workmen are found? A hard question it may seem, but it is easily enough answered. It is because no apprenticeship system exists in this country. If a boy was compelled to learn—thoroughly learn—and employers were required to teach, patiently teach, "botch" workmen would be scarce. Machinery has arrived at such perfection in some trades, and labor is so divided, that few are fully qualified to take hold of every branch of their business. It is easy to see how this operates: An apprentice may become a good stove-plate molder, and be an indifferent machinery molder; a shoemaker may be good at pegged work or at fine sewed work, but not profitable to his employer at both; a printer may know how to set type or run a press, but not both. In short, a mechanic may know a little of everything, but not much of anything—a class to be dreaded by both employers and employes. Such a one argues that, having worked a certain length of time at his trade, he therefore is a workman, and demands journeyman's pay and fellowship in the Union. If this latter is granted him he soon finds the mistake he has made, but it is to late. He won't own it to others; he is too proud to learn; sometimes he is too self-conceited to be taught. But employers are estopped from complaint by their own course. So long as they willfully neglect to properly teach their apprentices, they are responsible for creating "botches." In too many cases they endeavor to use the apprentice as a make-shift because they secure his labor for a pittance, and when he demands better pay they cast him adrift to seek work elsewhere, while they supply his place with another apprentice, to be used in the same way. If employers would endeavor to make good workingmen of their apprentices, they would find Trades Unions ready to meet them more than half way. Employers complain of the injustice of the Union in demanding the scale of wages for an incompetent workman, forgetting that they themselves are to blame mainly for such incompetency. Union men do not uphold "botches," and employers are not compelled to give them employment. Let the latter do their full duty by their apprentices, and it will soon be found that a Union card is a testimonial of a good workman. Let employers co-operate with the Unions, and they will find out that a certificate of Unionism means that the holder has learned his trade, knows his calling, and needs no watching or instruction.—*Troy Plack.*

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

Combination in the ranks of labor is going to be the rule in the future, and employers cannot overcome or destroy it by simply shutting their eyes. It demands recognition, and will have it. Combination is one and the chief of the methods by which labor will place itself upon more nearly equal ground with capital. Capital has no rights save those which it has fought for and won. Thus far capital has kept well ahead in the race. It long ago learned the value and need of combination. But labor, through union, is gaining on it. It demands the right to something more than a bare subsistence, which, it appears, is all the monopolist and the protectionist newspapers are willing to accord it, and it will learn how to enforce its demands.

It will be worse than folly for great corporations to seek to crush out organized efforts in behalf of the rights of labor by ignoring them. Is it better to treat brotherhoods of employes contemptuously, to ignore and offend them, possibly to provoke them to unreasonable courses, or to receive their representatives as men manfully seeking their deserts, as reasonable beings with whom conferences can be held and agreements mutually satisfactory and beneficial be reached? Shall the obligations of reasonableness be enforced upon the members and directors of these brotherhoods by treating them fairly and courteously, or shall they be gruffly repelled and driven by sour disappointment to take up arms under the banner of conscienceless demagognes? The truth about organized labor is plain. It is not an evil, but a good in itself.—*New York Times.*

—In San Francisco the employing painters are endeavoring to break down the nine-hour system, but the men offer a stubborn resistence.

POLITICAL DRIPPINGS.

—John Jarrett, Ex-President of the Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers, has been defeated for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Pittsburgh district. This will secure the re-nomination and re-election of the Hon. J. H. Hopkins, present member from that district, who has shown himself a devoted friend to labor interests by his course as chairman of the special Labor Committee in the present Congress.

Thanks are due to the Hon. M. A. Foran, John J. O'Neill, J. H. Hopkins, Charles Stewart, Thos. M. Bayne, J. B. Belford, and Casey Young for their ardent advocacy of the Labor Bureau Bill in Congress. Men of both parties rivalled each other in their efforts to favor this bill. And in the Senate, Senators Blair, George, Morgan and a few more are worthy of all honor for the struggle they made in behalf of the same measure.

—The Republican National Convention has declared in favor of several labor planks which it has placed in its platform. It favors a National Labor Bureau, and the enforcement of the National Eight-Hour Law, the stoppage of imported contract coolie labor, whether it be from Europe or Asia, the return of non-fulfilled land grants, opposition to alien landlords. This is a sign of progress, which marks the advent of new questions into the domain of politics, and is due entirely to the existence and aggressive action of the trades and labor unions to their constant agitation of these questions for years. No doubt the Democratic Party will try to go the Republicans one point better on these questions.

—The presence of the *Tribune* boycotters at Chicago, and a demonstration of 10,000 labor men in that city just a day prior to the Republican National Convention, backed by the demands of a million and a-half organized workers throughout the country, "gently persuaded" the Republicans to swallow a few of the labor measures, which ten years ago were generally regarded as visionary. That will not redeem them in the eyes of the workingmen, if they do not at any rate drop Whitelaw Reid and boycott that "rat" paper, the N. Y. *Tribune.*

R. P. Bland, Congressman from Missouri, better known as "Silver Bill Bland," did not vote against the Labor Bureau Bill on its merits. He was in favor of placing the Bureau in the hands of some representative workingman. And he offered an amendment to that effect which was voted down by a vote of 48 ayes, 118 noes. Thereupon Mr. Bland reasoned that it was not the intention of the House to place the Bureau under charge of its friends, but only to create a new office, and hence he was one of the 19 who voted against the bill. This is the fact as it appears in the *Congressional Record.*

—New Trades Assemblies have been organized in Bloomington, Ill, and Decatur, Ill.

—Of the 22,000 locomotive firemen in the country, 10,000 of them belong to the brotherhood.

—Painters call the non-union men "cock-roaches," and the places they work in—cock-roach shops.

—That untiring worker in the cause, W. H. Foster, has been elected President of Typographical Union, No. 2 of Philadelphia.

—Union men attend the meetings of your Unions. Come out, and by your presence encourage and strengthen the workers.

—The new tenement house cigar bill in this State has been signed by the governor and gone into effect as a law. We await to see what the employers will next do to overcome the good effects of this measure.

—"No, sir-ee! I don't propose to have my son work as hard as I have worked. I'm going to learn him something easy. I'll wait until he grows up a little and then make a preacher or a pirate out of him.—Oil City Blizzard.

—How is it that hod-carriers in nearly every city of the United States are getting from $2.50 to $2.75 per day, while in many of the same cities carpenters are contented with $2 to $2.25? Have the bosses more love for the hod-carriers than the carpenters, or is it not apparent they concede wages more through fear of the hod-carriers union?

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.

I wish to suggest to the Brotherhood the following amendments to our constitution, with reasons therefore:

First: That any person wishing to learn the trade shall apply to the L. U. for admission as an apprentice, where he shall be admitted if his character and other personal qualifications answer the demands. He shall pay the same fees and dues, and be entitled to the same benefits and privileges as other members, except that he shall only vote on such matters as concern apprenticeship. He shall not be required to serve more than three years for his trade, and the L. U. may declare him a fullcarpenter at as much earlier a date as the L. U. shall deem just. The L. U. shall from time to time determine the wages of their apprentices, or give them different grades with a scale of apprentice wages attached to each grade.

Persons who have worked at the trade as apprentices or otherwise, may be admitted as advanced apprentices, and be entered in such a grade and receive such wages as the L. U. shall determine, and thence be advanced as other apprentices.

Any member who may find himself unqualified to do the work of a full carpenter, may, at his own request, and by consent of the L. U., be reduced to some proper rank of apprenticeship and receive the wages belonging thereto, and thence be advanced as other apprentices.

The second amendment I wish to suggest is:

Each L. U. shall strive to give each member the class of work he most desires or considers himself best prepared or qualified to perform.

Each L. U. shall keep a bulletin board with the various headings, such as: Heavy Framing, Light Framing, Coarse Finishing, Fine Finishing, Shop Jobbing, Outside Jobbing, Builders Bench Hands, Cheap Buildings, Miscellaneous, &c., and each member out of work may enter his name and address on the bulletin under the class, or classes of work he desires. The date when he joined the Union must follow his name. Bosses applying for help to do a certain class of work shall be supplied from the bulletin. The name may be drawn by taking first him who has been longest a member of the Union, and so on according to seniority of membership, until the demand is filled. The course of preferring senior members to juniors shall be followed only so far in this and in other matters as each Union shall deem fit, for the purpose of rewarding those who joined the L. U. in its early days; and punishing those who came in after the burdens of the Union had been borne.

The third amendment I would like to suggest is:

After the passage of this act, any man who wrongfully takes the place of any striking Union man, at any price, shall not become a member of any Union until he has first paid a fine to the Brotherhood, through the L. U. applied to for admission, of twenty-five dollars. The L. U. shall have power to raise this fine or any part of it. Any person getting into the Union by deceiving the L. U. in regard to his previous conduct in this matter, shall be expelled whenever the truth appears.

The reasons for the above amendments may not need mention, for it may have occurred to a majority of the members that without some provision for apprenticeship, no person can enter the trade unless he does so by outwitting the Union, and the want of such a provision is a public admission of weakness in the Union. All admit that persons will continue to enter the trade with or without the consent of the Union. If only those get in who sneak in, then the final end will be that the Union will be all made up of sneaks, and who but the Union will be responsible for such a membership?

The reason for admitting advanced apprentices needs no explanation.

The reasons for allowing members to drop to the rank and pay of advanced apprentices are that many persons who have not had the opportunity to make themselves accomplished workmen enter the Union in time of strikes or because of outside pressure, and from various motives, who would like to take an honest position in the Union and before the public, and learn what they had never before had an opportunity to learn, and become valuable members of the Union.

Every brother knows that we are receiving the severest opposition from bosses and good mechanics outside of the Union, because we have made no provision for this class of members. Such members suffer much themselves by frequent discharges, besides bringing needless reproach and expense upon the Brotherhood.

As for the second amendment suggested: All men object to arbitrary classification, and such a course is unnecessary. Men will voluntarily classify themselves, under favorable opportunities, not only to the greatest advantage and pleasure of themselves but to the greatest advantage of the trade, and best harmony of the Union. Every thinking man will admit, that a person likes best to do that which he has the most tact and talent for; for it is his tact and talent or an understanding of the occupation that makes it easy for him and takes away the blunders and mistakes.

When men are allowed to classify themselves they will become greater experts, and require less tools, and accomplish much more in a day.

It is safe to say that with this discipline, carpenters can double their pay without increasing the cost of buildings.

Outside the Union an increase of wages means the putting of money in one pocket that you take out of the other; but within the Union, under proper discipline, there is no reason why an increase of wages should be followed by an increase of rents, or an increase in the cost of any of the necessaries of life.

As for the carpenters, their wages are now so far below the average of other mechanics that they should be raised on general principles, regardless of results.

Outside of the Union, men work four-fifths of their time on work they do not like and have no talent for. The Union's business is to remedy this.

Upon the wages of the working classes hangs the whole law of "supply and demand."

Increase the wages of the working people and you increase the market fo, every human production, without increasing their ability or inclination to produce more.

It is possible to reduce wages so low that working people will be only able to purchase enough to keep from starving and freezing, and it needs no wisdom to see that this state of things would so completely destroy all market demands for everything that the whole nation would be in the rottenest state of bankruptcy.

The voice of the people demands union and higher wages, and woe to him who opposes!

Englewood, Ill., May 19. C. S. GRIFFIN.

PIECE WORK.

The section of the General Laws against piece work hinders the organization of the Brotherhood in many localities, and, as it stands, is opposed by many good carpenters. Many of the most successful boss carpenters began for themselves by taking piece work. Hence I believe our Convention should repeal a part of this section, and after defining piece work, insert in substance the following:

"While this Brotherhood discourages piece-work, it does not prohibit it, but no member shall take piece work unless he obtains a written permit from his Union, or, if away from home, from the Union having jurisdiction, if there be one, under a penalty of a fine of three dollars for the first offence, and expulsion for the second."

Such permits to be granted only at regular meetings, and for not more than six months, and the fee for each permit shall be fifty cents. When a member has offered a bid on a job of piece work, any member of this Brotherhood who shall knowingly offer a lower bid, unless the first has been rejected, or shall cause it to be understood that he will offer a lower bid, if the first bid is rejected, shall be expelled from his Union as soon as the Union is satisfied of the fact. This shall not prevent two or more members from offering secret bids on the same job in the first instance."

This amendment would place the whole matter where it belongs, and would remove an objection on the part of many enterprising non-union carpenters, in assisting to organize a union, or to joining one already established.

MORGAN BAKER.

Union 21, Chicago, Ill.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Portland, Oregon.

Our Amalgamated Union after getting left by the Republican Party, went to the Democrats; they allowed us delegates in all the wards, they were elected to the Convention, which was held May 10. E. T. Carr, of Union No. 50, was a delegate, and we secured three of our men on the Legislative ticket. The election comes off on the 24 of June. Trade is dull in Portland, but it will be better this Summer.

Buffalo, N, Y.

The strike of the Bricklayers of this city for an advance to $3.50 a day was gained after a long and stubborn fight. A good many large jobs were stopped in consequence, so that carpenter work was quite dull.

Halifax, N. S.

The laborers of Halifax have been on strike and were successful. The painters struck against more than 2 apprentices in one shop, and after one shop being out a week, they were successful. The carpenters' claim for 11 per cent. has not yet been acceeded to; the builders will call a meeting, and if they do not pay the amount I expect there will be another strike. The printers have joined the Amal. Trades Union, and expect others will soon follow. If the carpenters receive the advance, there will be no trouble in joining the Brotherhood under their constitution; but this city is crowded with scabs and botches, and many of our old members are returning to the ranks, because they begin to see that organization is the only weapon against low wages.

In some cases the bosses down here don't own as much as would purchase a half-pound of shingle nails.

Pierce City, Mo.

Building trade slack at present, and a good many carpenters are idle. A few buildings going up and plenty of hands to do the work. We are making efforts to organize a union here. In April, 1883, I left home to go to work at Tulsa, Creek Nation, Indian Territory, for the A. & P. R. R. Co., at bridge work, on the Arkansas River Bridge, and was promised $2.50 per day, and when they suspended work and I was paid off, they only paid me $2.25 per day, and some of the hands were paid only $2.00 per day, and I just want to warn all the craft against the bosses on that job. First chief engineer, John E. Thomas; second chief, Joseph Marbels, and third, our time-keeper, Mr. Crab, a crab by name and crab by nature, and a thief, for, any man that will steal a man's time and wages for a railroad corporation, is a dirty thief, and that is what all three of these men did. Moreover, when they discharged us, down in the Territory, they would not give us a pass home, and we had to pay our fare home, a distance of 160 miles to here. These parties, I understand, are now doing business in Florida.

THOS. R. AVERY.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Union No. 8 is initiating new members and reinstating old ones ever since we commenced the agitation of eight hours work for Saturday. A general feeling of support and encouragement has been shown us even among non-union men in favor of this movement. The public mass-meetings have had their good effects. The meeting in Academy Hall, May 9, was well attended; the speakers being our General Secretary, P. J. McGuire; H. O. Cole, of New York, Ex-President of the Bricklayers' National Union; and W.H. Foster, President of the Typographical Union of this city. Mr. Leslie presided very ably. Various trades were represented as well as carpenters. A communication from the Central Labor Union of this city, was received, and that body pledged its aid to the movement. Thirteen carpenter shops were reported as having acceeded, and some have fell into line since then. The shoemakers reported having the system in force.

The first Grand Prize Concert in aid of the Carpenters' Library Association will be held in Händel and Haydn Hall, June 12, when we expect a good turn-out. A fine programme of professional music talent under direction of Mr. Frank Gladding has been secured.

Milwaukee, Wis.

Trade dull, prospects good, $1,25—$2.50.

San Francisco, Cal.

The annual pic nic of Carpenters' Union No. 22 took place May 1, and was a brilliant success, far beyond our expectations. The union is thriving splendidly. Since January 1, our initiation fee has been raised to$5, and our union is such a power that non-union men have no living show, hence propositions are coming in by the dozen. Our members are all at work, although trade is not as busy as it might be, and there are many carpenters idle, but they are strangers and non-union men. Wages hold firm. The House Painters struck for nine hours and $3.50 per day, and carried their point, but the bosses want to take it away from them. The carpenters on this coast are preparing to be represented in our Trade Convention in Cincinnati.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52 is thriving rapidly, and new members are still coming in. We have bright hopes for the future and trade has taken steps for the better. I paid a visit to Savannah and had a conversation with the President and several members of Union No. 57, of Savannah, and learned that the union is progressing rapidly. Wages here range from $1.75 to $2 per day of 10 hours.

Toledo, Ohio.

We had an open meeting May 14, and although there was a circus in town, our hall was filled, and as soon as the meeting was called to order Mr. J. M. Bloomer was called, and he spoke for nearly an hour on the necessity of organization, after which the benefits and objects were explained, and then followed a stirring appeal by Bro. Stillwell, and an address in German by Bro. Dumminger. When the speakers were through there was an invitation given to all to join the union, and not more than one got out of the hall without first making out his application. Business is quite dull. The town is full of tramps working for whatever they can get.

Trenton, N. J.

On June 6, we had a large public meeting of carpenters in Temperance Hall; fully 150 men were present. P. J. McGuire and Charles Simmermann, Deputy Labor Commissioner of this State, were the speakers. Bro. Leonard Brown was the Chairman. The carpenters of the neighboring towns of Millham and Chambersburgh were well represented. Work is brisk and wages low, but it is expected that the mass meeting will help to advance the pay to some extent. It has stirred up the men considerably, and our union and its objects are the subject of favorable discussion everywhere.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Our example has encouraged the Painters to organize a union, and the Bricklayers are preparing to follow suit. The Plasterers have organized last Summer and secured $4.50 per day and 8 hours, The Knights of Labor have also been enthused, and I hope they will come out of their hole of secrecy and boldly advocate their doctrines. Our union is flourishing, and we are beginning to make ourselves felt as a power, a more intelligent body of men can never meet. They are mechanics who read and think for themselves, and who keep posted on the events of the day and are well posted on the labor question. I hope the day is not far distant when all the carpenters and joiners of America will be united in one solid body.

Hartford, Conn.

Affter several months' deliberation, we have at last established the nine-hour rule on Saturdays, and it is successful. Our union is creeping up in numbers steadily.

Detroit, Mich.

The Bricklayers' Union and Trades Council of this city are making every effort to re-organize Carpenters' Union No. 10, which was destroyed by a few selfish men who wanted their own old fogy ways to rule. The Bricklayers have the strongest union in this city and number 440 members, and outside of that there are very few scab-bricklayers in town.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

Trade only fair, but no prospects yet for the nine hours as there are too many men out of work, and emigrants coming by every steamer. We were compelled to abandon our contemplated strike May 1st, for that reason. At the lowest estimate there are 75 good carpenters idle in this small town and the contractors would cut wages were it not for our Union being in existence. Many of our members are leaving here sooner than work for lower wages—non-Union men are offering themselves at any price, and the cost of living is away up. Our Union, however, is in good condition. We expelled Frank Doyer from our Union for working piece-work.

Omaha, Neb.

Union No. 58 is initiating every night; work is fair and wages range from $2,50 to $3 per day of ten hours. We now number over 200 members on our roll. The thanks of our Brotherhood are due to Edward Walsh of the Omaha Bricklayers Union for organizing Union No. 58 of this city at request of G. S.

Washington, D. C.

Weather very hot and work only fairly picking up; wages $2,50—$3 per pay. Union men are getting $3 per day and some of the scabs are willing to work for less than even $2,50. We will return a friendly visit to Baltimore Union No. 29, on June 23. General Secretary McGuire attended our meeting on June 4. Hon. Robert Lincoln, Secretary of War, was forced to the rear in the race for the Republican nomination for President owing to his known hostility to the enforcement of the eight-hour law.

Victoria, British Columbia.

This city is overstocked with carpenters. We were compelled to close our strike for 9 hours as there is very little work going on, and this city is crowded with strangers who still keep crowding in. We are now aiming to secure a few hours off on Saturdays. A. B. Murray, S. Martin, C. L. Etheridge and J. McWhinnie have been expelled from our Un on for working on Jobs declared on strike. (An appeal in the case of A. B. Murray has been sent by him to the Executive Board.)

Portland, Oregon.

We decided to postpone our strike for nine hours for several reasons, the principal one is, so many of our members have gone away, and but few of us are employed, as building is so slack, while carpenters are pouring in every day working for what they can get; wages are down to $2 and $3 a day, and our Union is at a standstill at present, so taking everything into consideration, we concluded it would be folly for us to strike under the circumstances. Still we have not given it up, but will wait until a favorable opportunity arrives. I received your circulars, and each member took several to distribute, and they are doing good service.

St. Catherines, Canada.

Wages $2 per day for 10 hours work. Trade quiet and all our members employed.

Cleveland, O.

We hope the different unions will instruct their delegates to remain in session next convention until the business is fully considered and rightly completed and then adjourn with a sense of having done their duty. Times are very dull here for this season of the year, wages low, $2 to $2,50, with the most of our men receiving the latter figure. Our largest antagonistic shop burned to the ground last week with a large number of non-Union men thrown out and a total loss of tools. We cannot pity them, for it was through that shop our Union suffered the most. I refer to McAllister's shop. We are bending our whole energies to the building up of our Union, therefore we have not done anything toward the shortening of the hours of labor. It seems to me, by all the information I can gain, that trade generally is on the steady decline, and if so the Unions should be making preparations to meet it, and in my estimation the best way to meet it is for all classes of labor to combine and enforce shorter hours, and in that way we could gain time in which we might have laws passed abolishing class legislation and thereby giving labor a fair proportion of the wealth it creates.

A FEW THOUGHTS ON LAND AND CO-OPERATION.

I begin to see a few more errors in Henry George's work. But I do not display them in a carping spirit so much as to arrive at the truth. One of the errors is where Mr. George wants to draw a distinction between agricultural production and that in factories. It is where he states that after six or seven o'clock when the day's work is finished no additional value is conferred upon the products in process of manufacture until work is again resumed next day, while the corn and wheat of the farmer grows and makes his crop more valuable while he sleeps. You see he wants to prove that that fourth factor in production, vital forces of nature, which he brings in about the middle of his book, produces without labor (although he acknowledges that labor may give the impetus.) It is a wonder he ever let this deceive him, for without constant labor the farmer's crop wouldn't amount to much. Then again when winter comes he must still continue working, while nothing grows, yet meanwhile factory production can be continued cold or no cold. George's illustration fits for summer but not for winter. The vital forces of nature won't amount to much then or even next spring unless meanwhile the land is well manured. He himself feels hampered in his reasoning at this point, and it can be seen by the language, the modification the use of "perhaps," so that he is not entirely sure of his logic as in other parts of his book.

The same way it is in the chapter on trades unions. What he has to say against them can be answered by arguments which he himself furnishes. Still he is more in favor than against them, but the space he devotes to their influence is too small compared with the importance of the subject.

Coming back to his vital forces of nature. That fourth factor being no product of labor ought not to be private property. Not only land therefore but any product likely to increase in value because of them, like herds of cattle, etc., should become common property, in other words the vital forces of nature through which he justifies *individual* property in industrial production and consequently interest, ought according to his own reasoning to be *common* properly. Yet he seeks to deduct the other from it, and says it is just.

But this I will leave until another time. Now there is another matter that comes to my mind, and that is if we are to wait till the whole nation becomes ready to enter into co-operation we can never inaugurate it. It must be begun in the large cities, and during a crisis when some energetic action is necessary, will probably be the time.

If sufficient trades could be thus organized to effect a circle of exchange they would form an industrial world to themselves, supplying and furnishing their own markets. The circle would soon spread until at last it would embrace the whole nation, and proper relations with other nations could soon be established.

Lassalle's ideas is still a good one only trades unions must be grafted on it which he did not consider. This forms the connecting link between he and Marx, who wanted the Unions to perfect their organization until during some severe crisis when industrial anarchy prevailed universally, capital should be expropriated and social co-operation introduced. This would involve a jump that now will take place nationally. We will not change in one day from individual production to social production. Lassalle's idea in my opinion will form the transition except that trades unions will play a very important part in effecting it.

CINCINNATI, O. JOHN EHMANN

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P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary,
184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1884.

—Another instance of the advantages of boycotting! *The Family Story Paper* is no longer boycotted. It is now a union office and has acceded to all the terms required by the union.

AN EXPLANATION.

This month's issue of THE CARPENTER has been delayed by the absence of the General Secretary, who returned to his office June 7, after an extended visit to Chicago and other cities, a report of which is given elsewhere in our columns. That in itself is not the only cause. At any rate we would have had to delay that we might publish the proposed changes to our constitution, which appear in our columns this month. We have waited to give every union ample time. Yet strange to say, only very few have availed themselves of the right guaranteed by our constitution. If they have not, it is not our fault. We have given them repeated warnings.

LOOK TO YOURSELVES.

With labor planks in the Greenback platform, and in the Republican platform, and likely enough in the Democratic platform too, the workingman will be well taken care of politically this Presidential campaign. Yet with all this paternal political care no party can ever force the Government to do certain things, that can only be done by the workers themselves through their own agreement in their own organizations. If they ever want better pay, shorter hours, better treatment, happier homes and nobler conditions, they must look to themselves far more than to the Government. If powerless singly to secure these ends, then in union they will find their strength.

MUTUAL INSURANCE.

The principle that actuated our Brotherhood in adopting an Endowment Fund or Mutual Insurance is not one of mere selfishness, as it is one to bind closer the ties of Brotherhood among our members. Experience demonstrates that any trade or labor organization based on protective features solely is short lived at best and can not stand the shock of adverse circumstances. Along the whole line of labor organization in the past, we see the wrecks of trade and labor unions that have gone to pieces for want of something more than sentiment to hold their members together.

Trades unionism must look after the daily interests of the workman and mechanic in all his varied relations with his employer—in his wages, hours of work, shop rules, and payment of wages. It must secure for him the best possible conditions in the labor market that he may get the greatest amount of pay that can be had. It must save him from the greedy and reckless competition of his fellows and must protect him in the exercise of his skill and handicraft.

But in all this it must secure the cooperation of the public and the assistance and encouragement of the families of those directly interested. The power of woman in the social circles of the home must be invoked to aid us! With her sympathy and countenance we are bound to conquer respect and consideration. Hence our trades unions must be organized so that they are based on something more than a sentimental appeal to the household of the worker.

They must not only be Protective; they must likewise be Benevolent. They must look after all the many wants in the checkered life of a workman. In sickness the friendly hand of unionism should be at his bedside smoothing away its cares and sorrows with practical help. In want and distress it should be there to succor and strengthen him. In old age it should be his supporter, and in the dark grim hour of Death its fraternal hand should come to pay him the last homage of a decent funeral and see that his family is not left unprotected. Are not these objects worthy of our highest devotion and noblest sacrifice—what else can we do to demonstrate we are union men?

With these sentiments in view, our last convention in Philadelphia in 1882 adopted the plan of Mutual Insurance now in vogue in our Brotherhood. With all its imperfections the intention sprang from the loftiest impulses of our members. And in this spirit they decided in favor of a $250 Death Benefit—some wanting it to be $1000. In the pressure of business that ever crowds a convention, the details of the system were neglected and no power of enforcing its provisions were made, consequently some delay has attended its operations, and considerable annoyance has been given our general officers, as well as the local unions. To provide a better system will be one of the duties of our coming convention, and no doubt the delegates will come fully prepared.

In looking over the list of the unions we find that death benefits range as follows: Cigar makers, $30; Iron Molders, $100; Amalgamated Carpenters, $60; Amalgamated Engineeers, $60; and so the list runs on from $30 to $100, with the exception of our Brotherhood, which pays $250, and the Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, which each pay $1000. Some of our members think the $250 benefit too much for our Brotherhood to pay and want it reduced to $100. Others again—and they are many—contend it would be a breach of faith to make any reduction, and that it would do us harm to reduce it. The latter insist all that is needed is to provide for the machinery to raise the money and pay the benefit. Between these two opinions the convention must determine, and then it would be wise to submit their action to a general vote of the members.

NEXT CONVENTION.

The next convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, will be held in Workmen's Hall, Walnut St., Cincinnati, O., Tuesday, Aug. 5, 1884. Proceedings will open at 10 a.m. Hotel accommodations for the delegates will be secured by the Committee of Reception appointed by Union No. 2. Announcements to delegates will be made to them privately by letter.

Those unions and members that have been complaining of the imperfections in our constitution and laws, have had every opportunity extended them to set forth their views and the changes desired, the columns of this journal have been open to them, repeated invitations have been extended them, and strange to say these same parties have neglected to set forth their views or propose any great changes. If the next convention does not come up to their standard it will be because it has not had the benefit of their illlustrious wisdom.

CHEERING PROGRESS.

This month we have to amounce with pleasure the formation of six new unions under our jurisdiction. Charters have been granted as follows:

No. 59–Hammond, Ind.; 60–Englewood, Ill.; 61–Columbus, Ohio; 62–Santa Rosa, Cal.; 63–New Tacoma, Washington Terr.; 64–Cheyenne, Wyoming Terr.

In addition to this we have applications now pending from provisional unions just formed in Raleigh, N. C.; Houston, Texas; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Quincy, Ill.; and Decatur, Ill.; Preparations are being also made for unions in Grand Rapids, Mich.; Lynchburg, Va.; Springfield, Ill.; Batavia, N. Y.; Rochester, N. Y.; Helena, Montana; Pittsfield, Mass.; Muscatine, Iowa; Akron, Ohio, and Pierce City, Mo. This has been the result of a vast correspondence recently opened up by our General Secretary.

Buffalo Union No. 9 is also desirous of readmission to our Brotherhood, and Detroit Union No. 10 is now in process of reorganization.

Thus we have six new unions this month and out of the sixteen other cities named we have prospects of adding seven of them to our fold during the coming month. Our gains in membership have been equally encouraging as we have admitted over 400 new members during May.

This certainly demonstrates that the Brotherhood of Carpenters is a live, progressive, and aggressive organization, and in no short while it will embrace every city or town of any consequence in America.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Any local union of our Brotherhood that is one month in arrears to the General Office, either for capita tax, supplies or death assessment can not be represented in the coming convention to be held in Cincinnati, O., Tuesday, Aug. 5, 1884. See Sec. 6, Art. 1, Page 4 of our General Constitution. All dues, tax and death assessments must therefore be paid up to July 1, 1884, in order to entitle a union to send delegates and such unions as do not comply with this law, will be disqualified.

STRIKES NOT WHOLLY WRONG.

I believe it will be found that strikes are not wholly wrong, and that even unsuccessful ones have often been advantageous to the strikers. Labor has always had to fight for every advantage it has gained, and, though it is often defeated in its struggles that are called strikes, it has not only learned in such contests how to wage future battles, but so impressed employers with its strength that it has even made them shy of encountering an antagonist so formidable. It will also be found that many of the movements that have bid fair to improve the condition of labor, such as co-operation, industrial partnerships, boards of conciliation and arbitration, as well as many wise rules and policies on the part of Trades Unions have partly grown out of strikes.—Joseph Weeks, Secretary of the Western Iron Association.

—Workmen in the lumber regions of the Saginaw Valley, Mich., are making great outcry against imported contract labor, which is being massed there in hordes the past few months.

—You believe, perhaps, laborers and fellow-citizens, that you are human beings—that you are men. Speaking from the standpoint of political economy, you make a terrible mistake. Speaking from the standpoint of political economy, you are nothing but a commodity, a high price for which increases your numbers, just the same as a high price for stockings increases the number of stockings, if there are not enough of them, and you are swept away, your number is diminished by smaller wages—by what Malthus calls the preventive and positive checks to population; your number is diminished, just as if you were vermin against which society wages war.—*Ferdinand Lassalle.*

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—Milwaukee Union, No. 30, had an enjoyable ball on June 7.

—Bro. CasperHeep has been elected Cor. Sec. of St. Louis Union No. 5.

—Bro. Jas. Reilly has been reinstated in Baltimore Union No. 29.

—Oakland Union, No. 36 is doing well and trade is middling good.

—Our Southern Deputy Organizer, Bro. Rames, of Charleston, will soon organize a new union for us in Columbia, S. C.

—Unions will please report at once the names and addresses of their delegates elected to attend our Brotherhood convention this year.

—Rushville Union No. 39 suspended Z. J. Smith, Morris Winship, William Hacker, and Wm. Stamm. These names were mis-spelled in our last issue.

—Baltimore Union No. 29 and Oriole Assembly of that city both have acted in concert in enforcing the card system, which they put into effect June 1st.

—Bro. R. McKinley, late of New Orleans, is now in this city. Bro. Gustav Luebkert has gone to farming at Parkersburgh, W. Va., to recruit his health.

—Bro. Carr of Portland Union No. 50 is now in Vancouver, W. T., where he will soon organize a new union. That is what each of our traveling brothers should do.

—Unions not able to send delegates to our convention in August next on account of distance, can send in their instructions to this office and they will be laid before the convention. Send them on not later than July 10th.

—Union No. 48, Victoria, B. C., made a noble struggle for the nine hour work day this spring and at first succeeded in establishing it on the majority of union jobs. But a run of immigration that flooded that quarter soon lost them the benefits of the system, so that now they hold the question in abeyance for awhile.

—The circular report for June will be issued early in July. Unions desiring a special supply of them had better send in their orders now. The May report is imperfect in some details, but these errors will be avoided in our June report if the local secretaires will correct them.

—Chicago Union No. 21 has established a labor bureau at 106 East Randolph Str., Chicago, Ill., where they have fitted up a room which is open at stated hours, and is under control of a "Walking Delegate" who visits the various jobs during the day to collect the dues of union men in arrears, and to see that non union men become members of the union.

—Cincinnati Union No. 2 donated $10 to the strike of the carpenters in Leipzig, Germany. Others have likewise appropriated certain sums. The circular sent out by the Leipzig men was sent by them direct to the local unions, without having passed through the hands of our Executive Board or receiving their approval. This explanation we deem necessary as many unions have asked the information.

—Probably the oldest manufactured lumber in the United States, that is in use, is a floor of yellow pine boards placed in a Milford, Pennsylvania, house, one hundred and sixty years ago, and still doing duty in that capacity.

—Some of your organizations have been and are now being tested severely. At all hazards stand by your Unions. Be firm; be just; be calm; ask only justice. If that be refused, stand as one man against every effort to disorganize you and place you individually at the mercy of combined capital. There is an evident determination to destroy your Unions. Stand firm, and you will defeat all such plans.—*Troy Pluck.*

—Out of a total vote of 420,025 in Paris this year the labor ticket has polled over 175,000 votes—an increase of 60,000 since the last election and they have elected one third of the city council.

—*London Justice* reports that Denis Kearney has written to the London *Times* suggesting emigration of working people to San Francisco and California and that there is an abundance of work there. To our knowledge the labor market of California is over crowded.

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General Treasurer—J.F.GILLESPIE, 722 N. 10th St.
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The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members, and particularly for the benefit of our travelling brothers.)

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TRENTON, N. J.—Jos.H. Appleton, 50 Lamberton St.

TROY, N. Y.—A. J. Ryan, 108 15th St.

UTICA, N. Y.—Jos. Joyce, Utica Daily Press.

VICTORIA, British Columbia.—Joshua Holland.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—G. W. Heisly, 1227 D St., S.W.

WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

—An architectural novelty in New York City is the duplex apartment house. Its peculiarity consists in having twice as many stories in front, so far as the arrangements of the different flats is concerned, as it has at the back. This device gives very high ceilings for the parlors and dining-rooms, and economizes space by means of low ones for the kitchen and sleeping rooms.

Proposed Changes in Our Constitution.

From Washington Union No. 1.

Amendments to the Constitution proposed by Union No. 1, Bro. of C. & J.:

Art. 1, Sec. 3. Amend by inserting after convention, in last line—unless otherwise ordered by a general vote of the Brotherhood.

Art. 2, Sec. 1. Amend by adding—Or until their successors are elected. Sec. 2. Amend by adding—Said Union shall be held responsible for the misappropriation of any funds of the B. by said officers.

Art. 3, Sec. 1. Strike out all after Brotherhood in line next to last and insert—As provided by law upon the order of the Executive Board, and approved by the Trustees.

Art. 4, Sec. 2. Strike out all after Convention in fourth line. Sec. 3. Strike out color of working cards.

Art. 8. Strike out all of Sections 7 and 8. Sec. 9. Insert "may" in place of "shall" in first line. Sec. 10. Strike out all after "month" in third line. Sec. 11. Strike out all after "Brotherhood" in last line.

Art. 9, Sec. 7. Strike out whole Section and insert: "A member withdrawing from any Local and afterwards violating the laws of the Brotherhood concerning piece work, shall not again become eligible to membership without paying such fine as may be imposed by such local union."

Art. 10, Sec. 1. Strike out all after "cards" in second line to "good standing" inclusive in fifth ltne.

Art. 11. Strike out whole of article.

G. W. HEISLEY, Cor. Sec.

From Cincinnati Union No. 2.

Union No. 2 proposes the following changes:

1st. A Funeral Benefit of $100; $25 to be paid immediately on application to defray expenses out of L. U., of which deceased was a member, the same to be deducted from the $100, the same to be governed otherwise as in old Constitution.

2d. A Disability Benefit of $100, for those one year in membership, and $500, for those two years and more in membership to those permanently disabled while at work.

3d. Any person over 56 years of age shall be entitled to one-half of the above-mentioned benefits; this rule, of course, is not to apply to those already members.

4th. All dues, fines and assessments must be paid the first meeting in each month, the dues in advance to be entitled to the above benefits.

5th. Any local union failing to send Funeral or Disability Benefit within one month shall not be entitled to any benefit for six months thereafter, and any local union over two months in arrears for capita tax shall be suspended.

6th. The election of a Traveling Organizer, whose duty it shall be to travel at least 3 months in each year to the different cities in the United States and Canada, and for such time be paid the highest wages pay in his city, besides all traveling expense, and who shall go on call at any other time, providing, however, such local union pay his expenses, or ordered otherwise by the E. B., and to defray these expenses, 3 cents per member at each,month must be set aside, subject to the call of the E. B.

7th. An E. B., to consist of 5 Trustees, to be located all in one city. They shall hold meetings once a week, and supervise the general work of the Brotherhood, settle all grievances and difficulties subject to appeal. They shall act as Trustees of the B., and shall audit all accounts, pass upon all claims and bills before they are paid. They shall be elected by the Union in the city selected as headquarters by the Convention. The G. S. and the G. Tr. shall have seat and voice in the deliberation of the E. B., but neither shall have a vote as chairman to be elected by the Board.

8th. A Board of Appeals to consist of the five first Vice-Presidents, providing however neither of them is located in the city where the E. B. exists; it shall be their duty to settle all appeals from the decisions of the E. B., subject to the action of the succeeding Convention.

9th. These laws shall take effect three months after the Convention to be held in Cincinnati, O., August, 1884. Respectfully submitted,

The Committee,
JOS. C. STEIN, Chairman.

From Hamilton Union No. 18.

The building trade is very dull and the prospects are poor at present; for better times-

In regard to the proposed changes in the Constitution, the following are the changes Union No. 18 wishes to make:

First. We don't want any change in the Endowment Fund; Disability Benefits should be $200 for one year's membership, $300 for two years. We do not want any two Insurance Benefits of the kind suggested.

Second. 60 years ought to be the limit of age for general benefits.

Third. Endorse paying 25 cents per month capita tax to cover all running expenses.

Fourth. All right.
Fifth. do.
Sixth. We do not want our dues raised more than 50 cents.
Seventh. Is favorable.
Eighth. do.
Ninth. do.

P. S.—Any union man going to Detroit, Mich., are warned to keep away from a boss builder named Mercar; he is a citizen of this city and has taken a contract in Detroit some time ago, sending men from here. Failing to pay them their wages, they have been under the necessity of placing a lien on the building.

J. AMESS,
C. S., L. U. No. 18.

From Toledo Union No. 25.

Art. 2, Sec. 1., P. 5. Strike out "eight," in second line, and substitute "two."

Art. 2, Sec. 2, P. 5. Strike out and substitute; "The General Officers shall be nominated by the Convention, and elected by a general vote of the B."

Art 2., Sec. 3, P. 5. Strike out all after election, in third line.

Art. 2, Sec 4, P. 4. Strike out.

Art. 3, Sec. 1, P. 5. Strike out "draw," in fourth line.

Art. 3, Sec. 3, P. 6. Add to: "The General President shall act as General Organizer; his expenses not to exceed $500, to be paid by the B.

Art. 3, Sec. 4, P. 6. Strike out "eight," in first line and substitute "two."

Art. 3, Sec. 5. After "Unions," in second line, insert "except the Endowment."

Create new sections to further define the duties of the G. S. in regard to the Endowment as follows:

He shall immediately when proper notice is received of the death, or disability of a Bro. (who was in good standing and entitled to the benefits of the B.) draw an order on the G. T. for the amount due on said death or disability and forward the same to the C. S. of the L. U., of which the deceased or injured Bro. was a member.

After drawing an order he shall ascertain the amount that will be left in the G. T., and if less than $250 remain, he shall immediately give to each L. U. a notice of an assessment together with a report of the deaths, or disabilities that have occurred subsequent to the last assessment.

Sixty days after the date of the notice of an assessment, he shall notify all L. U. that have not paid an assessment. Of such an omission, and ninety days after the notice of an assessment, he shall report to the G. P. the number of all L. U's. that have not paid such assessment that they may be suspended.

When a L. U. is suspended, no member of that L. U. will be entitled to any benefis until the U. is re-instated.

When notified by the G. T. of the payment of an assessment by a L. U., he shall notify such L. U. that the receipt of such assessment has been acknowledged by the G. T.

Art. 3. Substitute for Sec. 9, P. 7: "The G. T. shall receive all monies belonging to the Endowment Fund from the L. U's., and report immediately to the G. S. the amount received, and also at once send receipt for the same to the C. S. of the L. U., providing the amount so received shall be the payment in full of the assessment it may have been sent to cover; and to ascertain such correctness, he shall be authorized to call on the G. S. for information necessary, or upon the S. of any L. U., and in case the remittance is found incorrect and such L. U. failing to make the necessary correction within 10 days, he shall return the money to the T. of the L. U. and notify the G. S. of the same; and he shall not give a receipt unless he is satisfied of such correctness, and when he is so satisfied, he shall then give a receipt and notify the G. S.

He shall hold and keep secure all monies received by him and pay all orders drawn on him, in accordance with the laws of the B.

All death and disability benefits shall be paid by him in full within 60 days (after proper notice is received.)

He shall keep a correct account of all monies received and paid by him and have his accounts regularly posted and ready for settlement and exhibition to the Trustees, whenever they may require it; and he shall make to the Convention of the B. a full report of the condition of the treasury.

He shall deliver to the B., or its proper officer, whenever called upon to do so, all monies, paper or other property of the B. in his hands.

For the faithful performance of his duties he shall, before entering on the discharge of his duties, give a good and sufficient bond in the sum of $1000, which bond must be approved by and delivered to the G. Trustees.

He shall furnish an itemized statement of the receipts and expenditures of the B. to each L. U. at the end of each quarter.

Art. 7, Sec. 3, P. 9. Strike out "five" in first line and insert "seven," and after the word "monies" in sixth line, insert "except endowment."

Art. 7, Sec. 10, P. 10. Strike out "one" in second line and insert "two," ant "twenty-five" and insert "fifty."

Art. 11, Sec's. 6 and 7, P. 13. Strike out and substitute: "The Executive Board shall order a general levy (in case of strike) to support the strike benefit.

Art. 12, Sec's 1, 2, P. 14. Strike out. Sec. 3, P. 14. Strik out and substitute: "Within 30 days after an assesment is read in the L. U., each member shall pay 10 cents, or failing, shall be suspended."

Art. 13, Sec. 1. Strike out and substitute: "Any member who is in good standing shall be entitled to a death benefit of $250, and in case of accident received while working at the trade of carpenter and joiner, which incapacitates him from again following the trade, he shall receive the sum of $250, and this shall release the B. from all further obligations to said members.

Create Art, 13, Sec. 1. Each L. U. shall pay to its members a sick benefit of not less than four dollars per week, and to create a fund for this purpose, one half of the initiation fees, and 25 cents per month of each member's dues shall be set aside and used for no other purpose.

Sec. 2. To be entitled to sick benefit a man must be a member six months, and not more than 30 days in arrears.

Art. 3, Sec. 1, P. 17. Strike out and substitute: "The initiation fee of a L. U. shall not be less than $2, and monthly dues not less than 50 cents, but new U. may make the initiation fee $1, and dues 25 cents for the first year."

Sect. 2. Strike out "twenty-five" in first line and substitute "fifty," and "five" in second line and substitute "seven."

Art. 10, Sec. 2, P. 26. Strike out "three months in advance."

Respectfully submittted,
M. J. THOMPSON, C. S.

From Toronto Union No. 27.

Trade is dull here, although there are very few carpenters idle if any. I think that they are non-union men. Union No. 27 is beginning to pick up a little. We have initiated several new members and have more to initiate.

I will now give you the opinion of Union No. 27, on the circular of the E. B.

1st. We are of the opininion that this very desirable, as we know the $100 is a large enough benefit to pay.

2d. We would rather see the amount $500 changed to $250, as we think that the amount of dues will not be sufficient to pay the former amount.

3d. We would suggest that this clause read: Insurance in case of fire, water or theft, that we pay not less than $5, and the higest $50.

Second. That any person who shall join after the age of 55, shall not pay towards the Funeral or Disability Funds.

3d, 5th, and 6th. We are opposed to the centralization of funds, and would much rather see the equalization of funds, as we are of the opinion that it would be the means of strengthening the B., and also give members more confidence in it, and also be the means of getting others to join us, as they have not much confidence in us because they think we have no backing.

7th, 8th, and 9th. We would like to see these adopted.

ALEX EDGAR, C. S.

From Rushville Union No. 39.

We are pleased to see that at least one other union is opposed to reducing our death benefit. The proposed amendments or changes to our constitution were brought up by some brother's remarks in our regular meeting on May 14. The temperature of the room soon raised beyond the height of any thermometer, for we are opposed to any change for awhile yet anyway.

The present constitution suits us; we are working by it, living by it and propose to die by it. Any reduction of our already meagre insurance will reduce our numbers by thousands, a general tool benefit will have the same tendency, for not one here will insure, yet they must help keep up others. We propose that each L. U. establish its own tool insurance, its own sick benefit, and its own dues.

There are some unions, whose expenses for salaried officers, stationery, rent, etc., will overrun the 60 cents per month for dues, benefits, etc., while we can with 60 cents dues pay our rent, dues, and a local sick benefit of $5 per week, and if necessary, we can make a $250 death benefit. We have gone into this thing to win, and propose to make it win, but we shall fail if we go to changing this, amending that and pulling in something else. It will soon be like the traditional family rifile, handed down from one generation to another, each generation getting something new, until at last nothing remained of the original gun but the touch-hole. So it will be with us, nothing will remain but the fact that we once were, but soon played out. Make one change this year, and there will be twenty to make next year.

We are opposed to paying $1,000 per year for an agitator or organizer.

We are now organized; we are an acknowledged power; our work is being felt througout the land. Eeach member of the Brotherhood is or should be an agitator, and with our rapidly increasing membership and successful demands for fair compensation for our labor, we are opening the eyes of all carpenters, and they are beginning to say: "What shall I do to be saved." A copy of our paper and constitution placed in their hands, and a few words in their ears, and they are numbered among our hosts New unions may be organized the same way. All it requires is to be up and doing. Wide awake to our own interests, and the $1,000 may go toward making our journal a weekly paper, thereby spreading the good work more effectually. Yours with respect,

JAS. C. GREGG.

From Denver Union No. 55.

Sec. 1, Art. 13. Should read: $250, instead of $10, so that if a Bro. was disabled and could not work again at his trade, he should have help enough to do something else, and if he could not do anything, he would need it still more. If a man is badly disabled, he has to be clothed, fed and doctored all the time. But I would not be in favor of paying a man $250, if he simply mashed a finger, or fell off a building when drunk, nor $100 either.

Nashville, Tenn.

We are still using every effort to increase our membership. Nearly every class of business men, such as merchants, lawyers and even contractors are with us, all except journeymen carpenters. They seem to be too slow to see the benefit of the Union, but still we are not discouraged and expect trying until we succeed, There is a great deal of building going on and wages still low, while rent and the necessaries of life are high.

Cincinnati, O.

We are sorry to report that one of our members was shot in the shoulder in the late riot. We sent a committee to see him, and they reported that he was hurt very badly and will be laid up for some time, but will recover. The committee reported that he was shot accidently while passing in the streets. He is well liked by all the members, and is noted for being a very quiet person, and has held to us through thick and thin. We have reduced our initiation fee to $2 for three months, and as a consequence we got many new members. We are flooded with strangers now; men better keep away from here. I hear that the Western papers published that there is so much work in Cincinnati at present that it will take three years to finish it. That is a base fraud. We are busy, but we can do the work all this season and have a little time left to loaf this Winter. On June 1, we had a grand entertainment in Workmen's Hall, for the benefit of Bro. Martin Schwarz, who was shot in the late riot, and Bro. Jacob Wosenick, who broke both legs eleven months ago while at work. The hall was filled to repletion, and the musical programme was well carried out. Bro. P. J. McGuire, of New York, delivered a 20-minutes address, setting forth the object and purposes of our Brotherhood, and the propriety of carpenters' families taking an interest in our cause. His address was well received, and it has had good effect in stirring up many who were luke-warm

A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION.

The necessity for united action among men whose interests are identical to produce better results from their labor, forces its claims on all intelligent workers, however much they may differ as to the best means to be employed to accomplish their object. This necessity is forced by combinations of Capitalists, that not only threaten to reduce our limited means of happiness, but also abridge our right to aspire to any position in society where we may be free to develop our own resources as "builders of this world's wealth." It is a self-evident truth that the latent resources of labor can never be fully developed under the leading strings of a hostile interest. Having reciprocal relations with the inexhaustible forces of nature its power to supply the wants of humanity is equal to all possible emergencies.

Whatever may be possible for labor to accomplish under the most favorable surroundings is still a vast unexplored territory guarded by class legislation. Within the undeveloped resources of continuous labor is a higher civilization where a few men cannot fix its limits and control the means of labor and say "thus far but no farther shalt thou go" in the production and equal distribution of wealth. It would be no more disastrous to place wealth at the complete mercy of savage intelligence to produce waste and famine than to compel labor to stop short in the work of production for fear that the prices of merchandise may fall so low as to be within the reach of the most needy. How far this affects our condition and defeats every effort to reform, is well understood by manufacturers, hence they strive to augment surplus labor by every possible means at their command; and surplus labor means idle labor.

The principles on which trades unions are founded are so often confounded with the actions of a few self-constituted reformers that a repetition of them is in order on all possible occasions.

Labor produces the wealth of all nations. Whether it be the labor of the head or hand, if it adds a single blessing to humanity it is of Divine origin.

The man who causes two useful ideas to exist where one formerly struggled for existence is as much a public benefactor as he who causes two blades of grass to grow where one formerly sprouted. Yet there is no aristocracracy of labor; each should contribute his share to the common good and be entitled to his just reward. The man who digs a ditch to drain a marsh or builds a bridge to span a stream is as much a useful factor of society as the merchant who marks the prices of goods up or down to take advantage of the needs of society.

"Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay,
Princes and lords may prosper or may fade,
A breath can make them as a breath hath made;
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

The distinctions that now exists in society rest on no solid basis. The necessity for police protection grows with the present systems that give the largest share of the products of labor to those who create nothing.

The one-sided twist given to legislation reducing as far as may be possible the risk to Capital, principally to loss of increase while labor must be sold each day or it becomes valueless on to-morrow still further fortifies the unnatural advantage of Capital.

Now what is money that it should command universal homage? Having no creative power of its own what intelligent idea is conveyed by the term "Almighty Dollar?" A dollar is a fugitive from justice seeking whom it may corrupt.

Based originally on the product of labor and the child of its necessities it soon lost all filial respect and became its oppressor. Its conquests over justice have shaken our faith in the virtue of law. Its victory over the mother's love for her offspring, and its rivalry in the hearts of Christian communities even of the love of God is the only well-established claim to its common title. Yet in all legislation it is given a higher consideration than the inalienable rights of man.

The three fudamental elements of humanity, the individual, the family, and the State, is the natural order that gives a solid foundation on which governments are built that command the consent of the governed. How far this order may be invaded and the first subordinated to the last is limited and stops where the law of self-protection begins.

When this point is reached and passed by authority, it is a sin against humanity and treason to self, to sit down in despair, and say there is no remedy for the abuses of power. It is my purpose to show, if within my power, that through our own indifference, Capital has been able to fortify its position and control every avenue to wealth and "dictate to the workers what they shall receive for the labor they perform."

The changes that are constantly going on in society, attract but little notice, yet are producing the two extremes of wealth and poverty, and are paving the way to an aristocratic form of government where the welfare of the people is of less importance than the display of pomp and pageantry. The palatial residence of the millionaire and the squallid tenements of the artizan are the mile stones that mark the road to an aristocratic form of government with as much certainty as the fortified castles of feudalism told the story of an enslaved producing class. Demagogues may boast of American love of freedom and popular indignation at the encroachments of wealth, but men jaded and worn with the constant struggle for a bare subsistence do not dread a change from the shadow to a reality as much as we would like to suppose.

Just how far legislation has in the past been powerless to protect labor may be seen by its results, as shown in the last United States census. In the statistics of manufacturers we find reported the amount of capital invested, the number of hands employed, the amount paid in wages, the cost of material and the value of the product. By the simple process of arithmetic we find the average wages for one year to be $346.11, while the profit per hand for the same period was $374.15, or 36 per cent on amount of capital invested. Nor is the 78 per cent paid for material exempt, since it represents former labor spoiliated to an equal degres.

It is but fair to assume from this statement of facts published by authority, that fully one half the product of labor is taken by an underhanded system of taxation and profit that does not arouse suspicion as to where the robbery begins. The broad assertion is frequently made that competition stimulates production.

So it does when its burdens are laid equally on all classes. But to exempt one class in a large measure of its exactions and to place them on the shoulders of employes is disastrous to the best interests of both,

Competition, whether the cause or result of civilization, takes a backward march to barbarism, when an outlet for idle labor must be forced in an enlightened age. The sharp contention that now exists among wage workmen for the opportunity to earn a living, if fought out among themselves to the bitter end without the intervention of common sense must have but one termination: "the survival of the fittest," which means that the man who can do the most work for the smallest pay, will secure enough cheap food to enable him to outlive his weaker brother.

Many hope to escape this conflict by becoming employers, but here too we find the same inexorable law. The large monopolies guarding the avenues to wealth combine to crush out the competition of small capitalists and the unscrupulous employer outlives in a business sense his conscientious competitor. This is the law under a one-sided competition that closes up the outlet for surplus labor and compels its victims to prey on each other until the higher impulses of our race are obliterated. The tendency of wages under such conditions is invariably to seek the lowest extreme and forces the laborer to dispose of his toil and energies for a bare living. The counter-balancing influence of demand forces up the price of labor only when men and circumstances combine.

An individual refusal to sell at the lowest rates makes no impression on the market. It is only by a general demand that an advance is gained, such as might spring from two causes. One a total insufficiency of the purchasing power of wages to supply the necessaries of life compelling men to abandon their occupation and thus lessen the supply of labor in that line. The other, a concert of action to establish customs or laws that may give a fixed steadiness to the value of labor and stimulate it by the assurance of success. If the first or squeezing out process is to be depended on to regulate the surplus of labor the effect would be merely to overcrowd pursuits more favorably situated, or add to the idle and vicious class that are a tax on both capital and labor.

This process has been applied to the agricultural classes to such an extent, that there is shown by the Tenth Census to be an actual decrease of 42.000, while the ratio of increase in population was thirty per cent over the report of 1870.

This overcrowding has affected many of the professions that once were largely remunerative; so much so that many of them are to-day best described by the term genteel pauperism.

The theory that wages and consumption keep pace does not accord with the experience of the wage workers, nor is it likely to do so until steady employment gives them a point or line from which consumption can be measured. There can be no surplus production while the producers have either to beg, borrow or steal.

Neither will there be any general increase in the wealth of our people until labor finds its full scope in continuity of employment. The short-sightedness of wealth is as glaring as the mistakes of labor. The public policy that builds up collossal fortunes in the hands of a few, saps the foundation on which their posession rests: a happy contented people.

The wide spread discontent among the producers, evidenced by the decrease among the agricultural class, and the banding together of workmen in a compact for mutual protection of wages, is of itself sufficient proof that there is no other protection for labor.

Compelled to rely on our own resources in seeking out a remedy, we admit having made many mistakes. These mistakes are the practical experience that developes the true remedy. Too great a reliance on strikes has been the means of discouraging many union men whose enthusiasm too often runs away with their judgment. It seems strange that this weapon of trades unions is often used by employers in the protected industries to defeat labor.

Manufacturers often force them into a strike under the flimsy pretext of a reduction in wages, merely for the purpose of getting rid of an accumulated stock in a market limited to home consumption.

Consequently the prices of goods are thus maintained at the expense of the idle men who are compelled to resort to credit until work commences.

The power of capitalists to subdue revolt among employes under a high protective tariff is due to its exclusion of those goods that might be otherwise supplied to consumers by reason of not promptly filling their orders. In fact, the stoppage of work raises the price of goods by the increased demand, and thus benefits capital.

A tariff for protection is simply a promise to capitalists on the part of the government that if they undertake to make certain goods in this country that similar goods made in foreign countries shall not be brought here and sold in competition with theirs.

But there is no promise given to American labor that the foreign labor shall not be induced to come over and cut down all the benefits that may accrue to us under this system. It can be proven that the United States consuls have even acted as agents of manufacturers in stimulating emigration by false stories as to the high rates paid American workmen.

A great deal of stress has been laid on the words "pauper labor," yet it is doubtful if there is much difference between European and American struggles to obtain a decent living by labor.

Both wisdom and experience teach us that under cheap transportation nations are but neighbors, separated by an imaginary line that is lost in view of a common origin. The same practical experience that demonstrates to us the impossibility of sustaining a high rate in one place against a low rate in an adjoining locality proves we must either lend a helping hand to raise the European workmen to our level or we will be ultimately brought down to their level by the overpowering force of emigration alone. The intelligent trades unionist having fought the battle of wages to the limit of local or national issues, looking with dismay at the swelling tide of emigration, catches the full force and meaning of the immortal German's words: "Workmen of the world, unite!"

WASHINGTON, D. C. G. EDMONSTON.

—Hints and Practical Information for Cabinet Makers, Upholsterers, and Furniture Men Generally, is the subject of a very neat little work published by the Industrial Publication Co., 294 Broadway, N. Y. Price one dollar.

AN APPEAL IN BEHALF OF WAGE-WORKERS.

The organization of labor is at present the order of the day, and the more general it becomes the greater is the intelligence and wisdom brought into its ranks. Guided by the errors of the past, they pursue better methods to accomplish their ends. No sane man can dispute the necessity of a systematic resistance to the tendencies of the age, which are to look upon the workingman as a useful piece of mechanism in whose labor capital can be invested with a certainty of profit. But in the eager scramble for wealth, the competition among the investors, labor is seldom at a premium; on the contrary, the investors are all of the bear order. This bearing down process means low wages, scarcity of food and raiment; it means enforced idleness whenever the man of capital sees no profit in the future; it creates gloom and sulliness on the part of the bearer, and it is in a great measure responsible for the hardening process, the recklessness that leads to intemperance, vice and crime.

There is not a capitalist from the owner of $200 to the millionaire, but is perfectly willing to give to labor all that labor is entitled to after deducting the reasonable portion to which he is entitled for interest, risk, wages of superintendence, etc. No! there is not one that would like to be told that he oppresses the wage-worker or retains more than his just dues. Not a pulpit in the country but what pleads his cause in the name of the Redeemer. Not a fraternal society but what advocates his rights. Not a political party that dare propose anything detrimental to his interests, and yet the broad fact remains that wealth is rapidly concentrating into fewer hands and the masses are getting relatively poorer. The capitalists, great and small, are all busy organizing. The wage-workers for centuries have been content to look on with indifference; but of late years they have also taken alarm, and seeing the benefits of combination among capitalists, they have followed suit for the same ends. Hence trades unions; only this and nothing more.

Employers admire nobility in their employes and almost universally prefer "Union" men in the trades to "non-Union" men, for the several reasons that the former are generally more skilful, more attentive to their business, more steady in their habits, more worthy in every way of the confidence and esteem of their employers than the latter. A Union among the working classes, when squarely conducted, works harm to none, and untold good to all.

Los Angeles, Cal. A. VINETTE.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

The incident we relate here is one as rare in its occurrence on the part of employers as the action is commendable. A well known carpenter and builder of this city, took on an extra hand one day. Saturday night came; the builder paid off his hands at society rates, $2.50 per day. That is to say, he paid all at this rate excepting one. It was the new-comer who received less. At this, to use not a very elegant term, but a very expressive one, the new-comer "kicked." He desired to know why it was that he should be paid off with less money than the rest of the men. "Why, sir," said his employer, "upon what right do you demand the same wages as these union men? Have you assisted in any way in enabling these men to command the $2.50 per day which I pay them? Are you a member of their union? You are a scab; and I will not pay you union wages."—*Baltimore Free Press.*

—New York Bricklayers are united on a movement in favor of nine hours as a day's work this season, and steps will soon be taken to carry out the rule. This would have been done early in the season had not some men held the opinion that they had better first go to the State Legislature and get an eight hour law passed. They did so and—got left!

—The eight-hour movement is now under discussion in all the trades and labor societies of the country with a view to its adoption next spring. It would have been far better had it taken practical shape a few years ago instead of asking higher wager first. More men would have secured employment and wages would consequently have advanced anyhow.

Denver, Col.

We are now meeting regularly once a week, and have secured a hall centrally located. Most all our members are at work, though some of them are out of the city working. Quite a number that were coming in the union and some that joined have gone elsewhere. Men cannot stop here all the time, where living and rent are high, when out of work. There is not enough to keep the carpenters here steadily at work; most men working get $2.50—$2.75, a few manage to get $3. During the Leadville excitement, and for some time after people flocked to Colorado; there was a general boom. The population of Denver increased very fast. She had a big trade, rent went up, and a great many houses of all kinds were built, and now the rush is over and there is a great many vacant houses. So all that is done is now and then a house is built, or some little repairs are done. Still the landlords don't come down but very little on their rents. We had a public meeting last month, but owing to many meetings our meeting was slimly attended. A well-posted German and a very good speaker addressed us. Our President and others made speeches, and it has had a good effect. We took some names to propose after the speaking, and one man came to me to-day where I was at work to get me to propose him. Our ball did not pan out very well; we had a very respectable attendance considering that it rained all night.

We propose to make a sick benefit of $5 per week as soon as we can. We think the Brotherhood should have a deputy organizer for every State and Territory in the union, appointed at the next Convention of the trade, or soon after. We help our members to get work, and hence all our Denver union carpenters are at work. We advise carpenters to stay away from Denver!

Boston, Mass.

We regret to-day to inform you of the death of our highly esteemed brother, JOHN CLASBY, who died Sunday morning, May 25, in Mass. General Hospital from the effects of a fractured scull received in falling from the roof of a building upon which he was working. We feel our loss keenly, and more so because of it coming so unexpecied. We called a special meeting Monday evening, and notified as many of our members as we possibly could, and on Tuesday we attended his funeral in a body with a delegation from the Central Trades, and also from the Knights of Labor. We also appointed a committee to draft a set of resolutions, who wil report on our next meeting.

Evansville. Ind.

Wages look very blue in this city, the bosses get things down very fine. In the first place a boss that works 6, 8 or 10 hands, or "boys," you might call them, has in nearly all cases only got one or two carpenters at the price of $2.25; the balance are working for $1.25, $1.50 and $1.75 a day; the average price paid here is $1.75. There is considerable building going up this season, that is all small cottages; there is not much big building. It seems that every body is busy, but they are all complaining about wages. I spoke to several of the men about the union since I received your letter, and every one I spoke to is in favor of a union. Last year the Bricklayers organized a union and stood up like men, holding their wages at $3.50 a day; it works splendidly. Everybody, also the press was against them when they first organized, but they succeeded and ruled the town ever since; the Plasterers also.

Der Carpenter.

New York, Juni 1884.

Arbeiter, organisirt Euch!

Die zahlreichen Strikes im ganzen Lande zeigen dem aufmerksamen Beobachter nur zu deutlich, daß die Zeit nicht mehr fern ist, wo die Arbeiter gezwungen sein werden, gegen eine allgemeine Lohnreduction sich zu wehren. Und die beste Schutzwehr hiergegen ist unstreitig die möglichst vollständige Organisation in Gewerkschaften auf einer gesunden Basis, d. h. mit hohen Beiträgen, um dadurch eine kräftige Widerstandskasse zu bilden. Es ist viel leichter, in guten Zeiten ohne Organisation eine Lohnaufbesserung zu erlangen, als mit einer schwachen Organisation in schlechten Zeiten eine Lohnherabsetzung zurückzuweisen. Die Gründe dafür liegen auf der Hand. Zur Zeit einer allgemeinen Geschäftsblüthe sucht der Arbeitgeber mit voller Kraft Waaren herzustellen, um sich einen möglichst großen Theil vom Gewinn zu sichern, und ist ernstlich bemüht, alle Strikes zu vermeiden, die ihn in diesen Bestreben schaden könnten. Naht sich aber eine Periode der Geschäftsstockung, so versucht er es nur zu gern, den geringer werdenden Profit durch Lohnabzüge wieder auszugleichen. Sind seine Arbeiter unorganisirt, so gelingt ihm dies in der Regel leicht, haben sie aber eine tüchtige Gewerkschaft, dann brauchen sie sich solche Lohnreduktion nicht ohne Weiteres gefallen zu lassen. Die Gewerkschaften sind das einzige Mittel, durch welches die Arbeiter Schutz und Recht erlangen können, sie allein sind im Stande, die Lohnfrage zu Gunsten der Arbeiter zu regeln. Die Beiträge zu einer Gewerkschaft sind lächerlich gering, gegenüber den ungeheuren Vortheilen, die sie ihren Mitgliedern bietet. Doch die Menschen sind leider gar zu verschieden, die Zahl der leichtsinnigen und selbstsüchtigen unter ihnen ziemlich groß, und es bleibt daher immer eine schwierige Aufgabe, die Arbeiter zu organisiren. Besteht aber erst einmal eine gute Organisation, dann werden sich auch nicht genug traurige „Scabs" finden, um dieselbe ruiniren zu können.

Welchen Nutzen haben die Gewerkschaften?

Dies ist die Frage, die so oft von solchen Leuten aufgeworfen wird, die aus Kurzsichtigkeit oder Selbstinteresse das Wesen der Gewerkschaften nicht verstehen können oder wollen. — Nun, sie haben in Wirklichkeit einen sehr großen Nutzen. Sie haben die Löhne der Lohnarbeiter in der ganzen Welt erhöht und die Lage der arbeitenden Klassen verbessert, durch Verbreitung und Ausübung jener so einfachen und doch so wichtigen Sache: „Einigkeit macht stark." Sie schützen die Arbeiter in allen Noth- und Unglücksfällen und schaffen damit ein festes Band der Zusammengehörigkeit. Sie befördern durch brüderlichen Verkehr die Tüchtigkeit der Arbeiter und ermöglichen eine Kenntniß des Arbeitsmarktes, durch welche unsinnige Strikes vermieden werden. Organisirte Arbeiter handeln nicht länger nach einem augenblicklichen Impuls, ohne Kenntniß ihrer eigenen Lage, sondern sie ziehen erst Erkundigungen ein über den Stand des ganzen Geschäfts und sind dadurch im Stande, zur rechten Zeit mit Nachdruck das zu verlangen, was zu erreichen möglich und am Vortheilhaftesten ist.

Gewerkschaften sind eine Naturnothwendigkeit, und sie werden es bleiben, so lange das Lohnsystem besteht. „Schutz der Arbeiter" ist ihr Motto. Und dieser Schutz ist einzig in Organisation. Die Organisation ermöglicht dem Arbeiter eine Wahrung seiner Rechte, die er einzeln stehend niemals erreichen kann. Die ökonomischen Verhältnisse sind sich überall gleich, überall ist die Selbstsucht der Menschen deren Hauptfeder und immer hat das Kapital im Kampfe gegen die Arbeiter einen großen Vortheil. Das Kapital kämpft um den Besitz der geschaffenen Reichthümer, der Arbeiter nur um seine Lebenshaltung, um die Mittel zu seiner Existenz. Unter diesen Verhältnissen — und sie spitzen sich immer mehr zu — ist es klar, daß jeder Arbeiter, der es versäumt oder verweigert, sich seiner Gewerkschaft anzuschließen, ein Verbrechen begeht gegen sich selbst, gegen seine Familie und gegen die gesammte Menschheit. — Nicht minder schuldig ist aber auch derjenige, der es versäumt seine Mitarbeiter mit aller Macht zum Anschluß an die Organisation zu bewegen.

— Allgemein gültige Wahrheiten enthalten auch folgende Sätze, welche wir einem englischen Gewerkschaftsblatt entnehmen:

Wollt Ihr bessere Löhne erlangen, so müßt Ihr Euch organisiren. Arbeitgeber, die freiwillig und ohne darum gefragt worden zu sein, die Löhne erhöhen, müssen schon Philantropen sein, und diese sind bekanntlich sehr selten. Mitarbeiter! daß Ihr Euch aus Gleichgiltigkeit oder Feigheit nicht organisirt zur Erreichung einer besseren Lebensstellung, trägt die Schuld an Eurer traurigen Lage! — In 99 aus hundert Fällen ist jede Lohnerhöhung erst ein Resultat der Organisation der Arbeiter. Um etwas zu erlangen, muß man es fordern. Je besser die Organisation ist, um so erfolgreicher wird immer die Forderung sein. Jene traurigen Feiglinge, die sich fürchten, eine Versammlung zu besuchen, welche zum Zweck der Gründung einer Union einberufen wird, sind ein Hemmschuh und das Verderben aller Uebrigen. Sie möchten wohl die Errungenschaften der Organisation mitgenießen, fürchten sich aber vor etwaigen Kämpfen. Sie haben noch nicht einmal den Muth, ihren Arbeitgebern frei gegenüber zu treten, viel weniger aber in einem Kommittee zu dienen, welches höhere Löhne fordert. Jeder Arbeiter, der seine Union vernachlässigt, begeht ein Verbrechen an seiner Klasse! Nie kann eine Aufbesserung oder auch nur eine Erhaltung der Löhne erwartet werden, wenn die Arbeiter ihre Organisation aufgeben. Besucht regelmäßig die Versammlungen, bezahlt Eure Beiträge pünktlich, sucht die Mitgliederzahl zu vergrößern und jedem Einzelnen begreiflich zu machen, daß Organisation der einzige Schutz und die Hilfe des Arbeiters ist.

Warum die Fabrikanten nichts vom Normal-Arbeitstag wissen wollen.

Diese Frage wird in der „NewYorker Volkszeitung" wie folgt beantwortet:

„Ira Steward, der zu früh Verstorbene, pflegte zu sagen: „In einem mehr als dreißigjährigen Kampfe um Verkürzung des Werktags habe ich das Eine gelernt: Alles Andere wird das Kapital uns eher zugestehen, als den achtstündigen Werktag."

Woher dieser verzweifelte Widerstand der Ausbeuter gegen diese scheinbar so bescheidene Forderung?

Es ist ja in der That möglich, in acht Stunden so viel Werk zu liefern als in zehn. Es hat Fabrikanten genug gegeben, welche die Probe darauf gemacht haben, zur Zeit, da der 12stündige Arbeitstag in den jetzigen 10stündigen verwandelt wurde. Vor legislatorischen Komites ist von Solchen bezeugt worden, daß in ihren Fabriken in weniger Zeit ebensoviel und obendrein bessere Arbeit verfertigt worden war, als vorher in längeren Werktagen — die Lohnsklaven strengten sich etwas stärker an, schafften mit mehr Lust und Liebe. Für die Arbeitgeber erwuchs dabei außerdem eine Ersparniß an den Kosten der Heizung, Beleuchtung, der Aufsicht über die Arbeit. Die letzten Stunden des Tages, wenn die Arbeitskraft nachzulassen anfängt, sind wirklich für die „Bosse" (so nennt man in Amerika die Prinzipale) weniger einträglich als die früheren, sie sind eine Verwüstung.

Solches Zeugniß ist doch gewiß unverdächtig. Warum also stemmt sich die ungeheure Mehrheit der „Bosse" gegen die weitere Verkürzung des Arbeitstages?

Der Grund liegt auf der Hand, leider viel weniger für gedankenlose Lohnsklaven, als für die Beschäftiger derselben, die wenigstens instinktiv die Bedeutung der verkürzten Arbeitszeit erkennen. Der längere Arbeitstag gibt ihnen mehr Herrschaft über die Beschäftigten, mehr Macht, den Lohn herabzudrücken und — was für sie noch mehr werth ist — den Widerstand der Werkleute gegen Ausbeutung und Kommando zu brechen.

Wer zehn oder gar zwölf, vierzehn und mehr Stunden sich abrackern muß, behält keine Zeit zum Nachdenken über sein elendes Loos, keine Geisteskraft zur Erkenntniß seiner Menschenwürde und seines Menschenrechtes, kein Verlangen nach höheren Lebensgenüssen, kein Bedürfniß der Fortbildung, keine Sehnsucht nach Erlösung aus dem Joche, ja selbst keine Körperschaft zum Widerstand und zur Verschwörung mit seines Gleichen dazu" — —

Nachdem der Schreiber des Weiteren nachgewiesen, daß die industrielle Entwicklung der Neuzeit geradezu zur Verkürzung des Werktags zwingt, fährt er fort:

„Gegen alle Arbeiterforderungen zeigt sich endlich Nachgiebigkeit. Man macht hier und da Versicherungsgesetze für das Leben, die Gesundheit, die Invalidität u. s. w. Man gibt Haftpflichtgesetze, man beschränkt die Gefängniß-Kontraktarbeit oder schafft sie ab; man errichtet Fortbildungs- und Handwerksschulen von Gesetzeswegen; man beschränkt legislatorisch die Frauen und Kinderarbeit; man erweitert das Stimmrecht der Arbeiter, kurz, man erkennt — gleichgiltig aus welchen Gründen — mehr und mehr allerwärts die Arbeiterforderungen an — nur die Verkürzung des Werktags macht man möglichst streitig.

„Welchen andern Grund kann dies haben als den einen, daß mit dieser Maßregel die Herrschaft des Kapitals über die Arbeit gefährdet wird? Denn bei der einmaligen Verkürzung kann es nicht bleiben. Man gibt damit ein uraltes Prinzip auf und setzt ein neues in Geltung: das Prinzip, daß der Arbeiter Herr seiner Zeit sein soll, seinen Menschenwerth mittels seines Arbeitspreises selbst mitbestimmen soll, kein passiver Gegenstand der Ausbeutung durch Andere bleiben darf. Man verzichtet seitens der herrschenden Klasse auf seinen Gehorsam, seine Geduld, seine Unterwürfigkeit. Man gibt ihm das Mittel, sich selbst zum freien Menschen zu erheben. Man stachelt ihn förmlich dazu an. Man erklärt ihn für mündig und Selbstherrscher.

Es nenne sich kein Arbeiter mehr einen Sozialdemokraten, einen Schüler von Karl Marx, der uns alles Obige klar gemacht hat, wenn er nicht seine Kraft neben allen anderen Bestrebungen an die Agitation und Erzwingung des kürzeren, vorläufig also des achtstündigen Werktages setzen will." — —

— Die New Yorker Bauunternehmer haben einen Verein gegründet, welcher angeblich zwischen fünfzig und sechzig der größten Firmen repräsentirt. Die Bauunternehmer und Kontraktoren in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago und anderen Städten haben beschlossen, Organisationen, ähnlich derjenigen in New York, zu gründen und es ist nicht unwahrscheinlich, daß im Laufe des Jahres eine National-Organisation gegründet wird.

Ueber Arbeiter-Gesetzgebung und deren Nutzen

äußert Andrew Roy, früher Staats-Minen-Inspektor von Ohio, folgende treffliche Worte:

„Ich habe mich viele Jahre lang mit der Arbeiterfrage beschäftigt und aufmerksam die verschiedenen Schritte verfolgt, welche von den amerikanischen Arbeitern zur Hebung ihrer Lage gethan werden. Nach meiner Meinung wird ein zu großes Gewicht darauf gelegt, die Lage der Arbeiter durch die Gesetzgebung zu bessern. Selbst gute Arbeitergesetze können wenig oder gar nichts bewirken, wenn die Arbeiter nicht im Stande und willens sind, dieselben auch durchzuführen. Ein einzelner Arbeiter kann natürlich unmöglich den Kampf gegen die mächtige Corporation aufnehmen, aber eine tüchtige und richtig geleitete Organisation der Lohnarbeiter ist unwiderstehlich. Fast jede Woche vernehme ich Klagen von Kohlengräbern, daß sie mit Anweisungen (Store-orders) anstatt in baarem Gelde ausbezahlt und somit das betreffende Gesetz umgangen worden, und gewöhnlich verlangt man dann Verschärfung dieses Gesetzes. Wäre aber die Kohlengräber-Union mit Unterstützung aller Kohlengräber des Staates in der Lage, eine Anzahl fähiger Advokaten zu engagiren, sie würde in weniger als zwölf Monaten das ganze System über den Haufen geworfen haben. Nur die Schwäche der Arbeiter ermöglicht den Arbeitgebern die Uebertretung dieses Gesetzes. — Ganz dasselbe läßt sich von dem Haftpflichtgesetz sagen. Eine Armee von Inspektoren kann dieses Gesetz nicht erzwingen, wenn nicht die Arbeiter selbst ein lebhaftes Interesse daran nehmen und die Inspektoren kräftig unterstützen. Jeder Fall, in welchem Arbeiter durch Schuld oder Habsucht ihrer Brodherrn oder deren Agenten Schaden erleiden, sollte zur Klage gebracht werden. Ein einzelner Mann oder eine arme Wittfrau kann natürlich nicht eine reiche Corporation vor den Gerichten bekämpfen, wohl aber könnte dies die Kohlengräber-Union, sobald sie nur von allen Kohlengräbern unterstützt würde."

— Der große Strike der Weber in Fall River dauert noch immer fort. Er befindet sich bereits in der 13. Woche.

— Der Staatssenat von New York hat das von der Central Labor Union eingebrachte Gesetz, durch welches das bestehende Achtstundengesetz auf Fabriken ausgedehnt und Strafen für die Uebertretung bestimmt werden sollten, abgelehnt, mit 13 gegen 11 Stimmen. In Ermangelung von vernünftigen Gründen für ihr Verhalten, schämten sich die Gegner der Bill nicht, die einfältigen, abgenützten Phrasen, man dürfe die Arbeiter nicht einige Stunden des Tages zum Müssiggang zwingen, die persönliche Freiheit dürfe nicht beschränkt werden u. s. w., vorzubringen.

— Das Baugeschäft geht in diesem Jahre besonders gut in Pennsylvanien. Die Zahl der Gebäude, welche im Laufe des Jahres errichtet werden, wird auf 10,000 angegeben, Gebäude für öffentliche Institute, Geschäfts- und Privatwohnhäuser umfassend. Der Gesammtwerth derselben wird als zwischen 5—7 Mill. Dollars betragend, angegeben. 3000 von diesen Gebäuden kommen allein auf Philadelphia und sind zum größten Theil Wohnhäuser. Die Nachfrage nach Baumaterial war in diesem Frühjahr größer, als zu irgend einer Zeit vorher. Dieselbe Bauthätigkeit macht sich in den Städten New Jersey's bemerklich.

Auch in der Stadt New York sind mehr Neubauten in Arbeit, als zu irgend einer Periode in der Geschichte der Stadt. In den ersten 9 Monaten des Jahres 1883 wurden neue Gebäude zu dem veranschlagten Kostenbetrag von $48,067,223 errichtet. Davon kommen auf erste Klasse Wohnhäuser $13,353,000, auf die unter dem Namen Flats bekannten Wohnhäuser $13,081,700, auf Tenementhäuser $4,880,500.

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Die Expedition.

CHEERING NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Quincy, Ill.

Your circulars have led several carpenters to approach me on the subject of starting a union for them here. They seem very enthusiastic for the Brotherhood, and a union will be reported here before many weeks.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

We have 300 carpenters in this place, and many have signified their desire to join the Brotherhood. We are busily at work now in getting up a carpenters' union.

Akron, Ohio.

The Trades and Labor Council of Akron, in conjunction with Bricklayers' Union No. 7, are at work organizing a carpenters' union, and a meeting for that object will soon be held.

Houston, Texas.

At a large and enthusiastic meeting of carpenters in this city, June 1, it was resolved unanimously to send to you for documents, etc., necessary to form a local union of your Brotherhood. We mean business.

Rochester, N. Y.

Three years ago a carpenters's union was formed here under the impulse of the successful example of the bricklayers. At first it was very promising and the meetings were well attended. They worked as an assembly of the Knights of Labor, but lately they have shown no signs of any activity, and a good many men think a local union under the auspices of the Brotherhood would bring the men together

Springfield, Ill.

The Trades Council of this city has organized the painters, and now are at work on the carpenters, and with every prospect of accomplishing the task. Your circular has been of great help.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Since we left the Brotherhood our numbers have been steadily decreasing until now we number 115 men, who are determined to stick at all hazards. Our members now desire to know if we can be readmitted to the Brotherhood, as the element that forced us out of the B. are no longer among our members? Trade is fair; wages $2.50 on the average.

Sharon, Pa.

I am a contractor, but I like to see wages high; but this cannot be done without organizing. Some years ago there was a society here, but it was on an independent basis. They started a strike which lasted only one day, and that destroyed the union. The men could easily command 50 cents more a day this season if they were united. Wages now are $1.75—$2 per day, very few the latter figure. Wages are not as high here as they are in neighboring towns. D. C.

Ottawa, Canada.

Last year the carpenters of this place tried to organize for the purpose of stopping work at 4 P.M. Saturdays. Some few bosses granted the demand, others giving a 5 P. M. quit. This year the rule has fallen through for the reason that the men never perfected their organization. It is now proposed to form a union to see if we cannot do something to help ourselves. Wages $1.75 to $2 per day.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

It looks very favorable here for the forming of a Carpenters' Union. I find a general desire among the men of the craft to combine, and you can soon expect a union in this city.

Batavia, N. Y.

There are 150 carpenters in this city, and I have talked up the matter of the Union, and got a very encouraging response from many men, so it will be an easy matter to start. One of our leading builders when spoken to on the matter said, he would like to see such a thing as a carpenters' union in Batavia, for then good mechanics could protect themselves, and that would secure a better class of mechanics for the employers.

Lynchburgh, Va.

Carpenters' wages average $1.50 per day, and no union here. An organization is much needed here and steps will be taken to effect one.

Helena, Montana.

The circulars sent to this town have started men into asking how they can start a Carpenters' Union in Helena, and it is the general opinion such an institution is very much needed. Wages are very poor and of all grades, and a good union can be started here, for it is wanted very much.

Raleigh, N. C.

We have started a union two months ago, and have 200 members enrolled. The question of joining the Brotherhood has been received with applause and enthusiasm.

Decatur, Ill.

We have 20 names signed to start a local union, and there are only 125 carpenters in town. These men now enrolled are good active ones, and they will hold a meeting June 7, to organize permanently.

Baltimore, Md.

Trade is fair: we have been very successful in establishing the card system, and no carpenter can get work in this city unless he has a union card. On June 5, Gen. Secretary P. J. McGuire addressed a large meeting of carpenters in Ford's Opera House—the leading theatre in the city. His remarks elicited great applause and have been the means of stirring up the dry bones in this city.

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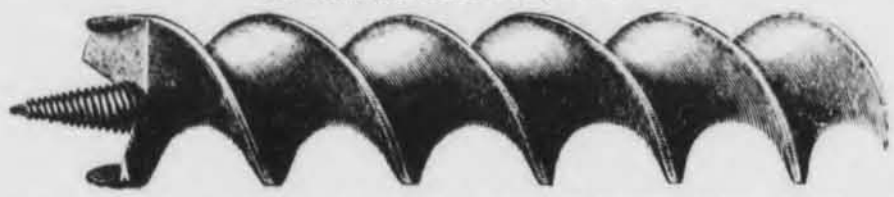

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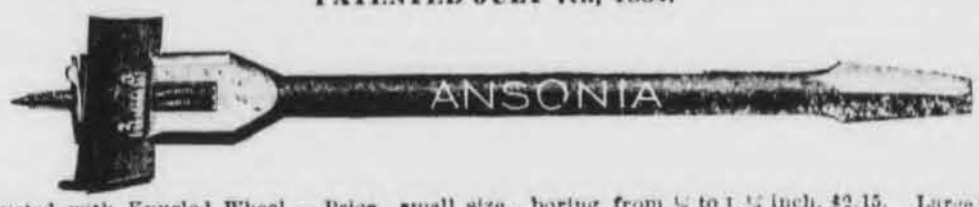

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, JULY, 1884. NUMBER 7.

ACROSS THE SEA.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The joiners of Tyneside have resolved not to accept the proposed reduction of 2 sh. per week in their wages on the Tenth of July. There is still great depression in the trade on the Tyne.—In Teeside 10 per cent reduction is offered in the dock yards but the men will not stand more than 5 per cent off.—Reductions of wages are the rule now in the cotton mills, quarries, and collieries.—Owing to the entire absence of organization among the spinners on strike in Bradford a large number have been compelled to resume work. In the case of the stonemasons' strike in Bradford it was otherwise. The master builders have given the advance demanded by the men. The wages are now 7½d. per hour. What better proof is needed as to the value of labor organization.

GERMANY.—Strikes still continue in Berlin. At the present moment the joiners, potters, polishers, furriers and workmen in other trades are out. Last week a meeting of the joiners was held at which the action of the employers was strongly denounced. Immediately a police officer rose and dissolved the meeting. Several persons having ventured to hiss the agent of Imperialism a number of police rushed in to the hall and drove the people out by force.

—Strikes of carpenters for better wages are now pending in Memel, Hannover, Potsdam, Stuttgart, Braunschweig, Leipzig and Magdeburg. In fact all over Germany new life has taken hold of the working class and continual reports of new unions formed and of successful strikes, are chronicled. The carpenters of Berlin are on strike since April 16, for a standard day's pay of 4 marks.—The stone masons of Berlin have taken steps to form a National Union of their trade all over Germany.

—The action of Congress in adjourning without making any appropriation to cover the expenses of the National Labor Bureau, can not be too severely condemned. John Jarrett has been appointed Chief of the Bureau.

—There are two ways of dying of starvation. It, indeed, seldom happens that a man falls down dead in a moment from hunger; but when a man is subjected to a greater expenditure of power than he is able to replace, on account of poor food or a miserable mode of life—when he gives out more physical energy than he takes in—then, I say, he dies of starvation.—*Ferdinand Lasalle.*

—Let us rejoice that Labor for the first time in American politics has made its voice heard in the National Conventions of the two parties that divide between them the greater part of the votes cast on election day. When that voice becomes stronger, as it is bound to become with the spread of the Light, we shall see a revolution in politics that present political bosses little dream of.—*Irish World.*

—During my long apprenticeship, running on well into the seventh year, my master's home was my home. When he and his wife and children ate their meal my seat was with them at the table. When I suffered from sickness their family physician attended me, and with almost maternal and paternal care watched over my recovery. There was sympathy between Labor and its employers in those days. To borrow a phrase from the cynic Carlyle, there were other relations than those of shillings and pence and hours of work and pay day between capital and labor.—*Congressman Kelley.*

TRADE NOTES.

—Nashville Union, No. 51, has adopted a sick benefit of $4 per week.

—Bro. Chas. McRea, formerly Rec. Secretary of Chicago Union, No. 21, is now in this city.

—Bro. J. K. Whiteside has removed from Indianopolis to Chanute, Kansas, and very likely will make that city his home for the future.

—The carpenters of St. Louis complain that contractors of that city are endeavoring to "flood the market" by the use of advertisements. It's an old dodge.

—In addition to the places reported last month, Des Moines, Iowa, Louisville, Ky., Oneonta, N. Y., Stockton, Cal., and Council Bluffs, Iowa, are now organizing unions under our jurisdiction.

—The carpenters in Baltimore and their bosses met in joint conference, when the latter submitted a plan for adoption. They asked that three grades be established, with a minimum and maximum rate of wages, and that four months' notice be given of a demand for an increase of wages.

—The semi-annual election of officers in the local unions has taken place this month. The names of the officers should be sent to this office, with the addresses of the Corresponding and Financial Secretary. By the way it strikes us that the next convention could do no wiser thing than blend these two offices into one and amend the constitution to that effect.

—To the many warm and influential friends, all over the United States, who have written to our General Secretary the past month urging him to stand for the office of U. S. Labor Commissioner, he desires to return his heartfelt thanks. He has had no desire for any official position in the government service, and is content to serve the cause as he has done in the past, without craving any particular honors.

—We ought to seek for the special end of everything. The special end of power is to protect the weak.

The special purpose of riches is to be generously dispersed.

Art thou less a slave because thy master caresses thee? Thou art well off, indeed, thou slave; thy master caresses thee to-day, he will beat thee to-morrow.—*Rascal.*

—Surely, it is easy to see that the shortcomings in our civilization are due to our inequality; or, in other words, that the great inequality of classes and property, which come to us from the Middle Ages and which we maintain because we have the religion of inequality—that this constitution of things, I say, has the natural and necessary effect, under present circumstances, of materialising our upper class, vulgarising our middle class, and brutalising our lower class.—*Matthew Arnold.*

—One mass of money is the outcome of action which has created—another, of action which has annihilated—ten times as much in the gathering of it, such and such strong hands have been paralysed, as if they had been numbed by nightshade: so many strong men's courage broken, so many productive operations hindered; this and the other false direction given to labor. That which seems to be wealth may in verity be only the gilded index of far-reaching ruin.—*Ruskin.*

A CLERICAL ENDORSMENT.

Labor is blamed on the ground of its lack of power of combination and its defective methods of combination. It has been by combination that the middle class has risen, and by it that capital has so wonderfully increased. The story of the middle ages, familiar to us all, is the story of the rise of the industrial class by combination in guilds. Labor's numbers, now a hindrance, might thus become a help. In a mob, men trample upon each other; in an army they brace each other to the charge of victory.

Trades Unions represent the one effective form of combination won by American labor. Trades Unions need no timid apologists. Their vindication is the historic tale of the successful advances which they have won for workingmen.—*Rev. Heber Newton.*

ACTIVITY OF BUILDING TRADES.

The *Southern Lumberman* in a recent issue says: "There is every indication that the building trades will continue as active in 1884 as they have during the past year. Notwithstanding the unexampled amount of building of every description that has been done during the past two years, there is apparently to be no abatement for the present and near future at least.

From every section of the country the news comes of continued activity in all lines of building materials; and architects, contractors and mechanics are full of work, with prospect of its continuing for an indefinite period.

WOMEN'S TRADES UNIONS.

Among the various Trades Unions in England there are several composed wholly of women. Any competent work-woman can be admitted to any of them on the recommendation of two members. An entrance fee of 25 cents, toward the benefit fund and six cents per quarter to the management fund entitle members to receive benefits. When out of work or disabled by sickness she receives $1.50 per week. On the death of a member a levy of 12 cents per member is made and paid to the nominee of the deceased member, or other person legally entitled. In 1874 the female bookbinders formed the first Union. At present the upholsterers, the shirt and collar makers, the sewing machinists, dressmakers and milliners all have their societies. Far from being troublesome Unionism is favorable to all: to the women, because it assures assistance in case of ill health and when out of employment to the employers, because they can rely on the efficiency of a work-woman belonging to the Union.

—The common people is more uncivilized in aristocratic countries than in any others. In such countries, meeting with men so powerful and so rich, the lowly and the poor feel themselves, as it were, overwhelmed with the weight of their own inferiority; unable to discover any method by which they can regain equality, they entirely despair of themselves, and allow themselves to fall below the dignity of humanity.—*De Tocqueville.*

—The American District of the Amalgamated Carpenters is now discussing the question of putting a paid organizer in the field for their society.

—At the National Convention of German Printers recently held in this city the constitution was so changed as to make the duties 25 cents per week and the initiation fee $3, and this rule is general.

CHIPS AND SAWDUST.

—Trade is very busy in Pittsburg at present, but wages are not very high, average $2.25.

—It is reported the carpenters of St Louis, Mo., paraded on June 8, but we have failed to hear of it.

—House Framers Union of this city report trade slack and some are working for $2.25. The union rate is $3 per day.

—The Cabinet Makers Int. Union will hold its next convention on Sept. 15; the place has not yet been selected.

—It is said that the Carpenters Union of Easton, Pa., has been "captured" by the K. of L.

—Trade dull here and in Brooklyn. Both cities are overcrowded with carpenters.

—An Associated Labor Press is the latest novelty in the way of bringing the labor forces closer together.

—The Death Benefit of the Amalgamated Carpenters is $84, not $60, as stated by mistake in our last issue.

—The Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers' Convention will meet in Pittsburgh on August 5.

—On July 21, the Bricklayers Unions of this city will adopt the nine hour system and eight hours on Saturdays.

—The Plumbers of New York have been united enough to force their employers to close the lockout which they had imposed upon the men.

—From Denver, Col., and a score of places comes the cry "Tell carpenters to stay away from here." "The city is overcrowded." "Times are dull."

—The Bricklayers of New York report that the majority of their bosses favor the nine hour system, and the men propose to adopt it.

—Congressman Hopkins, of Pittsburgh, declines to accept a renomination. We regret that inasmuch as he has been a faithful advocate of labor measures.

—All the labor bills in Congress, save alone the Labor Bureau bill, have been shelved until next session, which means they are buried beyond resurrection until the organized workers of this country are in a position to demand their adoption.

—Since the adoption of the card system by the carpenters of Baltimore, Md., on the 1st of June last, three walking delegates have been in active service, one appointed by Union 29, of the Brotherhood, and two by Oriole Assembly. Their services are invaluable.

—In this city a movement is on foot to harmonize and reconcile the International and Progressive Cigar Makers' Unions that they may be brought together for their own common good in one united body. Such a course must be hailed with exultation by all true union men. The Central Labor Union and the Amalgamated Trades Council are also endeavoring to unite.

—Amalgamated Carpenters report for this month shows trade very dull in Great Britain and in New Zealand and Australia, with the market overstocked in all the large cities of England. In South Africa the situation is very bad. The Amalgamated now has 407 branches and 23,912 members, with 540 members on unemployed benefit; 442 on sick list and 109 superannuated.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, JULY, 1884.

THE DREAMER.

[Boston Globe.]

A *dreamer*, sneers the worker,
But the dreamer never sneers at him who works;
The dreamer thinks, that labor may be lighter,
That laws be juster and the world more free.
He stands upon the mountain top above the clouds,
And with the glass of reason sees afar and clearly;
While idly looking at the struggle of the world,
Within his mind the better world to come is being born.
The laborer gives us life by giving food,
But 'tis the dreamer that makes life worth living,
To-day the people laugh his thought to scorn,
To-morrow, with bared head, they'll pause beside his grave.

—*C. M. Hammond.*

WHAT CONSTITUTES A STATE?

What constitutes a State?
Not high-raised battlement or labored mound,
Thick wall or moated gate;
Not cities proud with spires and turrets crowned;
Not bays and broad-armed ports,
Where, laughing at the storm, rich navies ride;
Not starred and spangled Courts,
Where low-browed baseness wafts perfume to pride.
No: men, high-minded men,
With powers as far above dull brutes endued,
In forest, brake or den,
As beasts excel cold rocks and brambles rude;
Men who their duties know,
But know their rights, and, knowing, dare maintain,
Prevent the long-aimed blow,
And crush the tyrant while they rend the chain:
These constitute a State,
And sovereign Law, that State's collected will,
O'er thrones and globes elate
Sits empress, crowning good, repressing ill,

—*Selected.*

Syracuse, N.Y.

Union 67 will be founded in this city on the 17th inst the permanent officers are James Southerton, President; Geo. W. McClure, Vice-Pres. and cor. Sec.; John Weckerle, Fin.-Sec.; John A. Ogle, Treasurer; E. C. Rhinebordt, Rec. Sec.; J. G. Snyder, Warden.

Washington, D. C.

The following named were elected officers of this Union to serve for the ensuing six months. Pres., Geo. J. Suter; Vice Pres., W. H. Harzell; Rec. Sec., J. F, Billingsley; Fin. Sec., P. S. O'Brien; Cor. S., R. S. Fowler; Treas., John T. Suter; Con., Robt. Head; Warden, John F. Mayer; our Union is growing and prosperous at present.

Baltimore, Md.

The newly elected officers of Union 29 are as follows: President, J. W. Pugsley; Vice. Pres., B. Mc. G. Aylsworth; Rec. & Cor. Sec., Ira B. Aylsworth; Fin. Sec., Dan'l R. Whitney; Treas., J. T. Bentley; Con., Wm. McKenney; Warden, Wm. Beam; Trustees: Bros, Woods, Whitney & Rielly. Union is getting along finely, initiated seven on July 14.

Boston, Mass.

Union 33 has elected the following officers: Pres., W. J. Sheilds; Vice Pres., T. Peckham; Treas., Bro Clinkard; Fin. Sec., Davidson; Rec. Sec., Squire Iverson; Cor. Sec., Wm. J. McCormack; Trustees, Geo, Cassidy, A. McDonald,—Harvy. Our Union is increasing very rapidly and by Fall we hope to have a majority of Boston carpenters on its books. Work is fair wages $2.50—3.00 per day.

Denver, Col.

Election of officers is as follows: Thos. Muirhead, President; C. O. Hatch, Vice-President; A. H. Higgins, Recording Secretary; E. E. Rice, Financial Secretary; J. D. Baily, Corresponding Secretary; Frank Bayer, Treasurer; T. E, Parish, Con.; Geo. E. Grey, Warden; M. T. Black, Trustee, 3 years; Chas. T. Dearhammer, 2 years; Frank Bayer (old Trustee) 1 year. Our Union is growing some all the time. Initiated 8 at last meeting and elected 4 delegates to Trades Assembly of Denver. Times are very dull here—work still slack and wages about the same. We will not be able to send a delegate to General Convention owing to the long distance and cost.

WHY TRADE IS BAD.

The industrial crisis which has weighed upon all civilized countries for months past is now daily taking a more acute shape. Branches of production and trade which had hitherto escaped any serious difficulties are now suffering like the rest. Everywhere is heard the old cry at periods of stagnation; there is "over-production" in all directions. Not only have we too much of manufactured articles, but there is a glut of food and raw materials. Too much grain, too much preserved meat, too much cotton, too much iron ore, too much leather, too much wool encumber the markets and depress prices; just as too great a supply of boots, cloth, yarn, ironware etc., produces a similar effect in the department of manufactured articles. This is the invariable accompaniment of these industrial world-wide crises and has been so from the first in 1825 until now. That is to say men are thrown out of employment in all parts of the world, and are unable to obtain either the food, the raw materials, or the clothes they want, though at the very time when they are most eager to labor in return for the necessaries of life in sufficient quantity, these very necessaries are a mere drug in the market.

Read the capitalist press or the ablest middle-class economists on this phenomenon which has now occured no fewer than seven times in this century, and you cannot but be amazed at the childish explanations they offer when they try to offer any at all. As a rule, journalists and economists are content with a superficial record of what is passing, and content themselves by saying that, ere long the surplus products will work off and a period of fresh prosperity will commence. Only the other day the President of the Board of Trade who poses at once as an economist and a statesman gave it as his opinion that the bad times arose from "bad harvests and over-speculation", an explanation previously given by that very accommodating statist Mr. Robert Giffen. But bad harvests have not affected the whole civilised world. By no means. America, India, Australia, at any rate, have had excellent harvests of late years. But the depression is as great in these countries, widely separated and different as they are from one another, as in England, Germany, or France. While over-speculation itself is a symptom, not certainly a cause, of the disease which thus paralyses the whole frame of capitalist production at least once every ten years.

Nor, as has been remarked before, do any forms of government or special fiscal arrangements check the development of the crisis in any country which is bound up with the present system of general exchange. In the Republics of France and America, as well as under the Monarchies of England, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Austria, in Russia, and even in Turkey, these fearful dislocations of business make themselves felt. Clearly, the form of government has no influence upon these great economical and social convulsions which bring with them such infinite distress to the mass of the working and even to many of the trading class in all countries. Similarly, with free-trade and protection. America and Germany are protectionist powers, yet both are suffering quite as much as free-trade England. There is manifestly no panacea for all the economical ills that our capitalist system is heir to in either of these methods of dealing with production and exchange.

Nevertheless to give up the attempt to solve the problem is simply to accept as inevitable the unending anarchy of our present methods with its fearful results to the community. Is it necessary that once in every ten, nine or eight years the whole machinery of production should be thrown out of gear? Is it a rational course to wring our hands over the waste and misery thus brought about without trying to understand, and therefore to master, the real causes of the mischief? In any other department of human knowledge men of science would proceed at once to work out the question from the bottom, and sooner or later the truth would be known. In economics, however, the problem *has already been solved;* but class interest, the prejudices of "society", and the deliberate falsifications of middle-class theorists prevent those most interested from acknowledging this. The reason of our present industrial crisis simply is, that the producers who work in concert as a Social force for social ends are at the mercy of the representatives of the possessing classes who own the means of production, conduct the exchange, and will allow the workers to produce only when the result of their employment is a profit for the employing class. These industrial crises are in fact the declaration of the bankruptcy of the capitalist class—the open manifestation to the world of their inability to handle even their own wretched slave-driving system. Take a single instance, the cotton trade. We need a certain amount of raw material, and dispose of a certain amount of manufactured goods on the average of years. But no attempt is made to regulate the supply of raw material or the output of yarn or cloth by comparison of notes or investigation of markets. All is conducted in hap-hazard fashion for individual gain, and even in the same town different factories are working overtime though the prospect of glut looms right ahead.

Now, we Workers contend that there is no possibility of any change for the better until the revolution which is even now working in the forms of production is given free play, and the control of exchange is made social—that is, put under the direction of the whole working community—just as production has already become social. The producers, bear in mind, have the best possible reasons for crushing adulteration, for putting an end to overwork, for coming to terms with their fellow-workers all over the world. The capitalists are directly interested in the maintenance of the present anarchy which enables the more powerful among them to pile up increased wealth.

Thus, then, the people should strive to get hold of the political machine in every country, not to exert merely political power, but in order to command the entire forms of social production now and in the future, so that human progress and human health may no longer be hampered and ruined by capitalist ignorance and greed.

H. M. HYNDMAN—*London Justice.*

BOYCOTT THE SANDUSKY TOOL COMPANY.

The Sandusky Tool Company employs about twenty plane makers. November 1, 1883, this company laid off the single men, and put the married men on half time. January 1, 1884, they started to work all the men eight hours per day, and reduced their wages 10 per cent., with the understanding that the 10 per cent. would be restored when orders came in good again. Orders did come in good on February 7, 1884, the men asked for the 10 per cent. back again. The Sandusky Tool Company would not give the men any satisfaction when they would give back the 10 per cent., and said if the men did not like it to take their tools and go. February 9, 1884, the men went out on a strike. February 16, 1884, the foreman of the plane makers was instructed to give the men notice to start work at the 10 per cent. reduction at 7 o'clock on the morning of February 18, 1884, or take their tools. When they found the men would not go to work the foreman was discharged, the Superintendent telling him that no man could be honest to them or his wife and family and belong to a trade union. The men took their tools out and are still out. April 1, 1884. the company finding they could not keep the scabs at work at the reduction, gave them the 10 per cent., but will not give their old hands their jobs back again.

The only course to pursue with this firm is not to purchase the planes and tools manufactured by them and to ask your dealers not to sell them.

Their planes and tools are branded as follows: Sandusky Tool Co., Ogontz Tool Co., Sandusky; Bartlett Anchor Tool Co.; Ducharme, Fletcher & Co.; Fields & Hardie; Mound City Plane Co.; Smith, Cohn & Co.; Smith, Lloyd & Field; Lauderback, Gilbert & Co.; Graham & Hains, New York.

—Two deaths have occured within our fold of late, that are deserving of particular mention. Bro. Clasby of Boston, our third Vice-President, was killed by falling from a building while at his work. In the death of Bro. Clasby we sustain a severe loss. A true and steadfast labor man his life was devoted to the service of his fellow workers, and were they carpenters or laborers it mattered not, all alike were his brothers and he struggled for their advancement and emancipation. Bro. John J. Eisinger, of Toledo Union, No. 25, was also a faithful worker and died in the service of the union which he so dearly loved. Honor the memories of these men!

PUBLIC AND SOCIAL EFFECTS OF TRADE UNIONS.

Among the many public and personal benefits conferred by trade unions may be mentioned the following:—1. The discipline enforced on the members; they are a law unto themselves. Everything is done regularly and with order. It is a reign of law, self-imposed and self regulating; the members are taught to rely first upon themselves, and, then to support each other in case of need. Although submitting, as in all other cases, to the rule of majority, the minority have the utmost freedom either to criticise, or to seek, by creating a majority, to amend anything in the rules and mode of action to which they object. Society itself is based on the same conditions, and every association must conform to these natural methods of self-government. 2. Discipline gives systematic force and energy, to the general conclusions arrived at by the entire body of the members. As isolation is weakness, so unity is strength, not in funds alone, important as these are, but but also in the energy of members, which, by its indirect power, exerts more influence than it often does by it direct action. This is the reason why strikes are fewer with powerful, wealthy, and well-organized societies like those of the engineers, ironfounders, carpenters, &c., than they are with small societies, or those recently established. 3. The restraints of these societies are conducive to strict sobriety, for no one is allowed in the lodge rooms if intoxicated; moreover they engender a spirit of self-respect, and, at the same time, a respect for the feelings of others with whom they are frequently brought into contact. 4. They inculcate thrift on the part of the members, for they are constantly discussing questions of ways and means, and have to look forward to times of depression or of discontent, and to provide the funds needful for any and every emergency. 5. They encourage emulation among their members both as to methods of work and skill, for a drone or a botch is alike a subject of ridicule and contempt, whereas a competent workman is the pride of the lodge and the trade. 6. They have an educational and elevating tendency on the character of the individual, for as each member has the fullest opportunity of expressing his opinions on every point brought before the lodge, he seeks to acquit himself creditably before his brother members; he is thus fitted to debate matters of the highest importance, and is trained to reason on subjects which involve the interests of tens of thousands of persons beyond his own narrow circle. As a means of political training, few associations can claim equal merit, although the full force and meaning of this influence are as yet in their infancy.

"The scope and power of this influence are not confined to those who are members of the union: it extends, more or less, to all the workmen in the trade, for the organized energy of the union is felt everywhere, and it effects the whole class of workmen in all places and at all times. It is necessary, therefore, that the public should know, accurately and fully, the objects of the unions, and the means by which they seek to obtain them, so that they may be able to estimate their value, criticise their deficiencies, and pass judgment on their acts and deeds."—*From "the Conflicts of Capital and Labor." By George Howell.*

JOINERY.

This important branch of carpentry was comparatively unknown in the early days of mechanical arts—the first dawn of its existence appearing in the construction of thrones, pulpits, and screens used in churches and cathedrals. The work was evidently performed by the carvers of the period, as this less artistic portion bore signs of carelessness, such as an artist would likely bestow upon what was altogether mechanical. When, however, carving assumed more classical pretensions. and joinery became necessary to the furtherance or perfecting of special modeling, then it was developed into a special department, and carried to a degree of excellence scarcely found among joiners of the present day. It is to the influence of this study that the world is indebted for the light window sash, paneled doors, wainscoting, handsome mosaic floorings and a host of other interior decorations now so common.

—Buffalo Union, No. 9, has unanimously resolved to be reinstated in the Brotherhood and to have its charter restored.

SHORTEN THE HOURS.

By extensively raising the hitherto customary average of wages and reducing the hours of labor, the method of work, as Marx has conclusively shown, would be highly improved, a great deal of new machinery would be introduced, and consequently the amount lost by raising the wages and reducing the hours would be reimbursed to the capitalist by a highly increased capacity of production. And what would the workmen lose in this case? Nothing. But, what would they gain? They would gain time for leisure, which means vital forces, a larger share of liberty.

Even if wages had not been raised they would have gained a material advantage. The vital force of an organism is limited; if it is spent by incessant and life-consuming employ, the aggregate sum of wages paid to the individual will be much smaller than if its producing power had been spent within a more extended space of time, and if the means of support had only supplied the wants of utmost necessity. Some figures will illustrate this.

Supposed: The productive power of a modern wage worker to be lasting for 30 years at a daily working time of ten hours. The year to be taken at 300 days. The wages are $10 per week. This gives $620 for the 3,000 hours of labor during the entire year, and $15,600 for a whole life time employed in productive industry. Measured by this standard the productive power of a workman is worth to capitalism $15,600, while the aggregate time of work amounts to 90,000 hours of labor.

90,000 working hours at a daily task of eight hours makes 2,400 hours of labor for 300 days. A man who works eight hours per day would consequently save 600 hours per year which is equal to 60 days under the old and 75 days under the new system; but he receives the same wages as received before. Formerly the worker spent his productive power in 30x300=9,000 days of labor; at eight hours per day it takes 11,250 hours to exhaust it.

Formerly a man received $10 per week for a daily task of 10 hours during 1560 weeks, or an aggregate of $15,600; at 8 hours per day his powers are spent after 1875 weeks and, even if the wages were not raised, receives $19,750 therefor. Consequently he has received fully 20 per cent. more for his labor than before, and he had 20 per cent. more time for leisure; and this should be no advantage?

But it is not to be supposed that wages will remain upon the same level if a reduction of hours should take place; according to the law of supply and demand wages would necessarily rise, as the supply of hands would decrease. And if now, as we readily concede, by the raising of wages and the reduction of the working time the methods of production must necessarily improve by the invention of more perfected machinery in order to give a larger share of the fruits of toil to capitalism notwithstanding such developmont in the world of mechanisms is only desirable as by it, more than anything else, the destruction of the old sozial system will be accelerated. —*Chicago Exchange.*

WHAT LONDON "JUSTICE" SAYS.

The wealth we have made has been used to intimidate and enslave us. We have been used to intimidate and coerce each other. Ourselves, and the wealth we have made, are the only means by which the usurers have kept us in subjection.

I do not advise the use of "physical force." THAT will be needless when you are ready for freedom. You will then need no guns or dynamite, for you can dictate your terms without their use.

Who makes your "laws?" Most of the men who make them are those whose income depends on their being broken.

The capitalist is the only slave-driver who ever persuaded his slave that he was free.

The old morality about property amounts to this, that it is wrong for the poor to steal, but right for the rich; this morality is still rampant here.

You have artificial ways of making people rich who never labor, and of making people poor who never rest from labor.

While theologians are disputing about the existence of a hell *elsewhere*, we are on the way to realizing it *here*; and if capitalism is to endure whatever may become of men when they *die*, they will come into hell when they *are born*.

AGAINST PIECE WORK.

I see by THE CARPENTER a call for a revision of the constitution in regard to piecework, it is my humble opinion that that should never have been published in THE CARPENTER, much less to go before the convention. I came through the city of Chicago in 1876 and stopped in that city about two months and judging from the condition of the carpenters there at that date. I think were it for their breaking the Laws of God and man, that the best thing the carpenters of Chicago could do would be to throw the piece-workers and the piece-work advocates into the Lake by the square, at say 5 cts. per square. And I feel sure they would make money on the job. Piece-work has the effect of flooding the market with men who call themselves carpenters and who knows just as much about the carpenter trade as a dog does about his father *and nothing more.*

Believe me there I walked around Chicago for several days without being able to find a builder who had anything to do with the hiring of the hands on the buildings they had contracted to build. Piecework increases the amount of work that is expected of each man for a day's work, cuts down and reduces wages and throws our old-men out in the cold. San Francisco is recovering steadily and slowly from the effects of piece-work. An old-man can hardly get a job from a boss here even now—Union and all—because the boss thinks he is not able to keep up his end with the young, strong, hearty men. If a man goes around and visits the jobs in this city, he will find it difficult to find what you might call an old man to work at the trade and the reason of it is as I stated before, because the boss thinks they are old and stiff and not able to do a day's work. If they do happen to put an old man on for a while a person would think from their talk and actions, that they were doing the man a charitable act instead of allowing a man to earn his bread by hand work as any one has to do who works at the carpenter trade in San Francisco, or the neighboring towns. It is all through the so called enterprising worker. It is not that as you might think I am an old man myself, that I say this, for am anything but an old men yet, as I am only a little over thirty years old yet. But I always had a great respect for old-age, and it stings me to the core to see an old man slighted on account of his years which I am sorry to say I have often seen since I came to this coast. Men who had forgotten more about the trade than many of those who reject them, ever knew.

San Francisco, Cal.

J. D. CAMPBELL, Cor. Sec.

Omaha, Neb.

We are taking a move against non-union men. The bricklayers have agreed, as soon as our union was in good shape, chartered and having by-laws, they would come out and refuse to work on a job with non-union carpenters. Men that laughed at the union are begging their way into it now. Repeated strikes are taking place against non-union carpenters. We are urging our members, where they are in the majority, on work, and likely to be successful, to strike every time. We have a scurrilous sheet here called the *Bee*. When we started our union it classed the organizers as blatherskites and agitators. Our boys came to the front like men to resent the insult and boycotted the paper, and requested all their friends to do the same. The same sheet now calls us bilks, beats and bummers. We are preparing for an amalgamation of all the unions in the city, and through that we expect to force all non-union men to open their eyes and find the necessity of geting into the ranks. Our union is prospering as well as we could expect. We have from twelve to twenty initiations every meeting. We have rented a very fine hall to hold our meetings in, and are having very enthusiastic meetings. We appointed an organizer at our last meeting. The Union Pacific Railroad advertised in Chicago and St. Louis for 500 carpenters The idea is to crush out our union. They have more men now than they want. I wish you would kindly urge our brethern in those places to keep their men from coming here, although trade is very fair at present, we cannot stand an influx of carpenters. There is a man here for every job.

At the election of officers for the ensuing six months the following officers were elected: H. Porter, Pres.; C. W. Green, Vice Pres.; J. Stoneman, Rec. Sec.; H. Neilsen, Fin. Sec.; W. J. Reeves, Cor. Sec.; J. McAllster, Treas.; J. B. Sedgwick, Conductor; W. Nelson, Warden. The election of trustees was postponed until next meeting on account of lateness of hour. We are taking action to form a branch at Council Bluffs. Bro. W. J. Reeves is deputy organizer. He will see what can be done there. He has also been waited on in respect to another branch being formed in this city The deputation is from the U. P. Railroad Car shop who desire to co-operate with us in the Union.

—Bro. J. B. Aylswork, Cor. Secretary of Baltimore Union, No. 29, in going from one building to another on a 3x4 scantling fell from the second floor and broke the ligaments of his ankle. This has disabled him for several weeks past but now he is getting better slowly.

HAND SAWS. — ANCIENT AND MODERN.

Severance of material was doubtless among the first difficulties which confronted mankind, and to meet this the primal saw, as being at once simple and effective, whether it was the jaw-bone of a snake, the back-bone of a fish, a jagged flint, or whatever else it may have been, was adopted, and furnished the idea for future development far in the long night before the dawn of history. The Greek story is that Talus found the jaw-bone of a snake and, after discovering from it the properties of a saw, imitated it by notching a piece of metal, and was killed by his uncle through jealousy. Other myths run that Perdix used the back-bone of a fish as a saw, was changed into a partridge by the envious gods and deified by his countrymen. It was a common tool among the ancient Egyptians, and many specimens of their saws are yet preserved. Even among that people it had lost much of its primitive rudeness and was made of bronze with teeth well ground or cut out and was inserted in a handle like the modern case-knife or bound to the same with thongs and operated with one hand. The teeth were pointed from the handle, and the cutting was done by a thrust movement, as in modern saws. The material to be sawed was placed upright and lashed to posts set in the ground. The Egyptians, as also the Phœnicians, used saws for cutting stone as well as wood, and the stones in the temple of Solomon were faced with saws. Samuel, 1033 B. C., mentions them casually. A two-handed saw has been found in the ruins of Nimroud, and many saws have been brought to light in Thebes.

In the stone age saws were made of flakes of flint set into a back of wood and secured by means of bitumen, and the early dwellers in Europe also notched shells. As late as 1768 Captain Cook found the South Sea Islanders using saws made of sharks' teeth lashed to a back piece by sinews. Saws made of obsidian were used in ancient Mexico, and specimens of these have been found buried under the deposits of sand and gravel in New Jersey, proving the existence of a prehistoric coast trade along the Atlantic, obsidian not being found nearer New Jersey than Mexico.

Saws of the bronze age have been discovered in considerable numbers, both in Germany and Denmark, but none have yet been found in England. These are made of plates cast very thin and then cut out.

Modern oriental saws all have the teeth pointed toward the handle and are operated by a drag movement. This manner of sawing and pointing the teeth seems to be most suitable to rapid sawing, but does not admit of as great accuracy as the thrust movement.

The Japanese saw is shaped like a butcher's cleaver and has a flat handle which looks as if it might have been whittled out of an inch board, to which it is attached by wrapping tightly with fine split cane. The teeth are very narrow and long, and the sawyer stands on the plank to be sawed and works with short, rapid, upward strokes.

The plates from which saws are made are rolled from ingots of steel carefully and uniformly tempered and varying in thickness according to the kind of saw to be made. After the blanks for the saws are stamped out they are further tempered to the desired point by heating and then immersed in oil for about five minutes. This oil is partially removed by sawdust, and the temper is then let down by reheating and slow cooling. The blank is then straightened by hammering, and the edge, upon which the teeth are to be cut, trimmed, after which the teeth are punched by a fly-press and then filed, tempered, oiled and wiped, and heated till the oil blazes off. It is then hammered, ground, and glazed and grained with emerey, the teeth set and the blade properly stiffened by heating. Any discoloration is then removed by an acid, and the saw oiled. The correct spacing of the teeth is effected by means of either a double chisel or a file guide. Saws are made tapering from the tooth side to the back in order that they may not pinch or clog in the groove or kerf.

CALL SMITH, "*Industrial World*".

—Trades Unions of working men are decidedly wrong. Trades Unions of employers are decidedly right. What is the difference between six and a half-a-dozen? If there is no difference between six and a half-a-dozen, what can make a difference between Trades Unions of employers and Trades Unions of workingmen.—*Granite Cutters Journal.*

ECHOES FROM THE SEMI-TROPICS.

In the June number, *Troy Pluck* gives good counsel, i.e. "stand by your Unions." A plucky Trojan myself who followed Greeley's advice "Go West, young man!" I recognize the spirit of modern Illium. The echo from the Pacific slope is "Stand by your Unions." It may be perhaps owing to the ozone in the atmosphere, but West of the Rockies, the brickmakers of society dare to question the right of their masters to refuse straw. Undoubtedly they need a straight jacket. Unlike the business slaves who have to toil the hardest when times are dull; the manual laborer has at least to look about him and see the foolishness of all this agony. Spencer gazes upon the American people and he says, they need rest. Talmadge tells of a hot axle. But the process of evolution must go on.

The man who evolves from a cabbage into a cauliflower aspires to become a lily, the struggle must be kept up. Civilization forsooth! When will the men who have got the grip on us ever let go? Will they ever stop to think? Pharaoh wouldn't stop to think until the first born was taken. The courtiers at Versailles were too busy. So were the planters in the South. O! for a council of brethren to discuss these points on even grounds. Scriptural, Ethical, or Humanitarian. Will it go on till the *dies irae* shall give a rude awakening to this treacherous slumber? Must we all needs fear a famine? Is this struggle necessary? Do Christians ever contemplate the awful responsibility? Can an article of merchandise rolling about the country in search of a market, be led to see the beauties of Infinite Grace, patience, and sacrifice?

I want to know what the Labor Bureau is going to accomplish by ascertaining the condition of the laboring classes. We all know what it is. It is bad enough. What will they do about it? Can they legislate for a class? Impossible.

A republic abolishes classes. "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread" is the fiat. Drones may be ornamental satellites; but they beget a desire to shine that is demoralizing to society. Brain work is apt to put a warped construction on *meum et tuum*. Hence the tree of evil grows steadily and the fruit is bitter. Keep on throwing men and women into the ditch and you will need thousands of Societies to drag out the few who float near the shore. Look at the work of those criminal idiots, those bib and tuck bankers, who have lately entailed such misery upon thousands. Ye gray-haired millionaires of the Metropolis, who started on the honest road of competency by exchanging calico for eggs, gaze on your progeny, and forecast the future of theirs. Will they be "the fittest to survive?" Can you picture them lungless and liverless, envying the lowly and downtrodden? Stop and think awhile! Just now in Los Angeles, some of us have got lots of time to think. The *Eastern Pilgrim*, who has made his pile, honestly or otherwise, and for whom the real estate man lieth in wait to sell him climate by the running foot, has not been so numerous of late. The "chattel" market is overstocked in consequence. But sharks must live even if they have to stir about. They write flowery articles for our journals and the deluded laborers keep pouring in. Union No. 56, however, is increasing in numbers and bides its time. We are in an isolated corner of the world where Unionism is a novelty. But this fact properly managed may be turned to account. It is hotter than Hades and the men work here on the high-pressure system, 10 hours in the boiling sun. Ranch hands get $25 a month and sleep in the barns like cattle. Chinamen are preferred when they can be obtained. For a man of moderate means to come here and buy land to cultivate is folly. If he cares to speculate, the chances stand thus: Land has been steadily increasing and the speculative value has been added to it fourfold. As this tension must soon or later cause a break the game is extra hazardous. A great many sacrifice their little property in the East and come here only to find that they could have done better at home. But the Railroads have got their last dollar, and they have only the wisdom. My only advice: stop this constant travelling! As a rule, you can do better by staying at home where you are known. Organize! Organize! One man is a power at times; a dozen can dictate terms, and a hundred well managed need never fear want. Capital must employ you to live. The power is inherent in you if you only know how to use it. Beware of the enemy's tricks. "Divide and conquer" is their motto. Let unity, forbearance and charity rule your meetings. Be careful of feuds; stand by your Unions. Race, color, creed or politics should not affect you. The men who falter on Protection will deal themselves trump cards in Free Trade. The Tariff is settled on to you be it great or small. First throw off the petty masters. Accept your calling as laborers and freemen and dare to assert your rights "to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Guard against the curse of rum, national prejudice, and indifference to other's wrongs. Nations are looking this way for a beacon of light, and the fires of freedom burn poorly. Men and women are falling all around you; see to it that you do not push them down, for there is One who said "He heedeth the fall of a sparrow." We have broken the shackles of four millions black men and to-day there are six millions white slaves looking for a Moses, and their masters need an Elijah. The giant master Capital is the twin-relic of feudalism. Always remember that he holds you on the auction-block as an article of merchandise whether you till the land or make ploughs, and while the bidding is going on, look to emancipation.

Los Angelos, Cal.

ARTHUR VINETTE.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

Trade has been dull, but is looking better, with a prospect of being fair this fall. Living and rents are coming down and wages are holding their own. The Carpenters Union will give a grand pic nic this month with prospects of a grand time. Owing to dull times in this city many have left for other parts. The union, however, is holding its own, work scarce and wages $2,50 to $3,50 with very little prospect of improvement.

Portland, Oregon.

Trade is duller here than it has been for three or four years, and a good many of our members have left the city. Wages have fallen fifty cents per day. Union No. 50 is alive and awake and quite a number of new members have been taken in lately.

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184 William St., New York

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—When King Cotton was dethroned, King Capital became sovereign.

—The only hope for the human race is to give to labor what it creates.

—Our industrial system is organized robbery armed with the power and sanction of government.

—If a man has a political right to self-government, he clearly has an *industrial* right to the same thing.

—An iron hand is upon our throat, a tyrant's grasp is upon our arms: the money kings are crushing us!

—The law and the courts of justice (save the mark!) are the ready instruments of capitalistic oppression.

—Industrial taxation without representation is as much tyranny as political taxation by "divine right".

—What we want is not work alone, but better terms for our labor so as to *educate* and provide for ourselves and our families.

—Capital, maddened by its possessions, is grasping wildly for universal empire, sustained by the mailed hand of military force.

—No man has a right to be worth a million, for that million is composed of that which ten thousand men have earned, but were defrauded of.

—The elevation of humanity to a higher and happier life, is to be the object of our toil, instead of the piling up of wealth for the selfish enjoyment of the few.

—The unequal division of the products of labor is the great terrible curse of our age and of modern civilization. It underlies and corrupts every institution and every form of Government.

—Our Systems of Trade and Commerce, and our wages system, and our whole political system, compels Labor to give up a part of what it creates to a class who creates nothing—but poverty and hard times.

—The time is near at hand when the wealth of the world will be more evenly divided among all creators of it, and the great instrument of the equalization of that wealth will be machinery, subject to the control of coöperative labor.

—We are dominated over by an army of petty industrial lords, dukes, knights and barons, each preying upon our labor to enable him and his like to live and accumulate by our labor the capital which is the basis of our present system of industrial monarchy.

—Wealth obtained by taking the labor from those who have created that wealth, without returning a *full* equivalent, does not belong to its possessor, morally or equitably, no more than does the *booty* taken by the high wayman from the defenseless traveler, belong to the *robber*.

—We have to-day a thousand million dumb men in the United States, and they are deaf, too; but they eat,—eat water and coal. Their name is Machinery. They laugh at us fifty millions of miserable wretches and ask us how we like to stand idle and starve, while they do all the work and get along only with a little cold water and a few tons of coal a day.

THE COMING CONVENTION.

In a few more weeks the representatives of the various local unions under our jurisdiction will meet in convention in Cincinnati, to pass upon matters of interest, not only in connection with our organization, but also in behalf of the trade generally.

To them the attention of our members all over the vast country will be directed, in hopes that they will legislate in such a way as will redound to their eternal credit and to the advancement of the Brotherhood. That they will do this is beyond doubt. There are many propositions, however, aiming at a change in our laws that ought to be carefully considered, and if found necessary, should be adopted. But under no circumstances should any such change be made hastily or inadvisedly.

Our Endowment laws need some very thorough attention to make the payment of our Death Benefit safe, speedier, and surer. We want to guard that in case of an epidemic or pestilence in any one city, that we may not be forced into bankruptcy by a large drain on our funds. Whatever we promise to pay should be paid promptly and every cent of it, and thus preserve our credit and honor.

Whether it be $250 or less is to be determined, as some are desirous of reducing it below the present figure. Others again contend that to do so would be to break faith with our members. Regardless of all this the main point should be to provide for the accumulation and collection of the funds, the next make the benefit divisible for married members, so that a portion of the whole amount can be paid upon the death of the wife as is now th case in many other unions; the balance remaining to the credit of the member.

The disability benefit should be increased to $500 and paid only after two years membership in good standing. In fact both benefits should be extended to a period of membership longer than that now required by our laws. All benefits should be immediately paid by the local union entitled to them provided the state of its treasury permits. The matter to be equitably adjusted by a system of semi annual equalization of funds, among the various unions on the basis of equal fees and equal dues for all general purposes. Any excess over and above the fixed fees and dues can be subject to the sole control of the local union under its own By-Laws, so that they can have their own Local Sick Benefits and Tool Insurance if they so wish.

Some are desirous that we should have a general sick benefit and a tool insurance but these are questions that require the most careful consideration until such time as we are older and better organized. We had better get our Death and Disability benefits in shape first, and after they are in good running order we can take hold of additional measures.

The tax to headquarters should be as light as possible, as there is a strong local prejudice in every trade union and every society against sending money away out of their vicinity. But the tax however should be sufficient to cover agitation and organizing purposes, as well as the running expenses.

Another good move would be to consolidate the offices of Corresponding and Financial Secretaries in the local unions to simplify the transaction of affairs with the General Office. Many quarrels arise now in regard to the function of these two officers that would thus be avoided.

In the main our constitution can be simplified and condensed and made more comprehensible. The question of piece-work requires a clearer definition; many other clauses need alteration.

We have every hope the delegates will approach the great task before them, in a calm and considerate manner and that the kindliest and most brotherly feelings will animate all their actions to the end that our Brotherhood may become a prosperous and growing power for the good of the trade in America.

CONGRESSMAN HEWITTS' SPEECH.

One of the most remarkable speeches on the labor side ever delivered in Congress, is that of the Hon Abram. S. Hewitt in the House of Representatives, April 30, 1884. Regardless of Mr. Hewitt's political opinions we here publish a few extracts from that speech as an indication of how rapidly the labor movement is forcing recognition at the hands of public men of all parties. Mr. Hewitt says:

In a strike which I witnessed on the Brighton Railway in England I had an interview with one of the chief officers of the great Association of Amalgamated Engineers. I asked him what was the limit of the wages which they expected to get from the railway. He said: "There is no limit; we intend to have all the net earnings of these railways, except a fair remuneration for the capital actually invested and fair salaries for those who administer them; and the only question with us is how to find out what the amount is, and we intend to have it." That great association contained as its members all the engineers of Great Britain, numbering many thousands. It has a great fund in its treasury of nearly a million of dollars, and it has had as much as a million and a half dollars at one time.

It selects one concern at a time and puts the men there employed upon a strike until their demands have been acceded to. The hours of labor have been cut down by this process to fifty-five hours per week, and the wages of labor have been largely increased, for no man can say them "nay" within the limits of right and justice which they strive to observe.

With this example other trades have organized, and these trades have confederated together and now constitute a great congress. They met in 1881 when I was in London, and the figures of that time are the latest that I happen to have. There were one hundred and fifty-seven delegates in that congress, representing a constituency of 463,899 members. They met there to consider what could be done to raise the average condition of the British workmen. Their deliberations were conducted with a calmness, with a courage, with an intelligence that would do honor to this House or to any other deliberative body in the world. The did not seek to attack capital. They have learned that capital is their best friend, but they intend to make it their servant, and they can make it their servant.

There is a steady increase in the growth and influence of this great organization, but what concerns me here is to define the significance of such organizations. The labor of Great Britain to-day is practically pooled for the purpose of securing out of the products of industry the full portion which ought to be alloted to labor after paying current rate of interest upon capital and a proper remuneration for management. This result they have been able to accomplish. The rate of wages has steadily tended upward in Great Britain, and although much time has been lost in disputes ending in strikes, the result of the organization has been to introduce arbitration between the masters and men, so that strikes are becoming the exception rather than the rule in trade disputes. In these arbitrations the masters and the workmen meet upon equal terms. The result is a better understanding of each other's rights, interests, and duties, and out of which is slowly growing, through the agency of co-operation, the association of the workmen with the owners in ownership and management of the property.

That process is only at its beginning, but, thank God, the day is at hand, and will surely come in my time I hope, when workmen themselves will be the owners of all the machinery upon which they expend their daily toil, and shall themselves have whatever profits the God of Nature intended them to have as the fruit of their labor.

The progress of the human race toward freedom has been slow and painful, but it has been sure, and in accordance with a well-defined law, now clearly traceable, in the history of man. It began with the struggle for freedom of thought, for the attainment of which we have to thank the Greeks. Although during the long night of the Middle Ages the light of intellectual liberty paled, and often took refuge in prisons and cloisters it was never extinguished but burned with new brilliancy in the era of the revival of learning. To-day a man may freely think, write, and publish the results of thought without the fear of man, and, if he chose, without the fear of God.

The next step in the great procession of the ages, was the achievement of religious freedom, sanctified by the blood of saints and martyrs. Liberty of conscience drove our fathers to the inhospitable wilds of America, where in its turn it gave birth to political freedom, the next creation in the Genesis of human liberty. The child grew, even in our free atmosphere, but slowly and only reached its full maturity when the proclamation of the martyred Lincoln gave political freedom to every human being, without regard to color, race, or previous condition, within the borders of our land.

Industrial freedom only remains to be secured in order to complete the glorious record of the advance of the human race from servitude to liberty. For such industrial freedom we have now entered upon the final struggle. To the student of history the result can not be doubtful. It may come by moderate reforms, as I hope, or it will come as comes the avalanche, overwhelming and crushing the obstacles in its path. It may be attained by reform, or it may come by revolution.

But when it is achieved the world will be lost in wonder at its beneficent results, in comparison with which the triumphs of intellectual, religious, and political liberty, which were its necessary progenitors, will be but as dust in the balance of advantage to the physical and social welfare of the families of men.

Let us try then to form some idea of what will be the actual condition of the human race, when the temple of freedom is thus completed with its final story of industrial liberty to which it will be glory enough to have contributed a single stone, as I am striving this day to do.

The world will be filled with wealth, partly the accumulations of past ages, and more the product of the present age, when the genius of man has made him master of all the subtle forces of nature. Capital will be superabundant, and therefore cheap. It will be like the living water which the prophet of God struck from the rock. But capital will then be the servant, and no longer the master, of labor. Labor will no longer be hired by capital, but will hire it. It will no longer work for wages, but for profits, which will be proportioned to the natural resources of each country, without deduction for the support of special classes of men, or for the advantage of special interests at the expense of the general welfare. All privilege will cease, and all men will be equal before the law, as they are before the Creator. They will differ only in physical and mental endowments, and each will be paid according to his work. Men will become more and more individualized and the property of each will thus be better defined and scrupulously respected; but the divine law that "we shall love our neighbors as ourselves" will then receive a new significance, because the force and habit of association in great industrial enterprises, wherein men have a common interest, will teach them to bear each other's burthens, as well as to respect each other's rights.

In such a state of society there will be still rich and poor, there will still be good and bad, but with the law of justice all-powerful, and legalized robbery unknown, jealousies will disappear, charity wil increase, and the world, ceasing to be a pandemonium in which men are struggling with each other like demons for the possession of property, will become a paradise in which the primal curse has been converted into a final blessing.

This is no dream of an enthusiast, for I am a plain man of business, nor is it an excursion into the realms of Utopia, for I have been trained to weigh and measure the results of human action. It is a sober deduction from the study of the operation of the principle of association, which has crowned this age with material achievements of stupendous grandeur and beneficence, which is invading and taking possession of every domain of human affairs. It has already begun to organize labor for its emancipation from the bondage of ages, and it will be found as easy of application, and as fruitful of benefit, in this final field of action, as it has been triumphant and beneficent in other spheres of social development.

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—Small-souled politicians may laugh, narrow-minded bigots may deride, a stupid people may disbelieve, but, even now the thunders of industrial revolution are rumbling in the distance.

Proposed Changes in Our Constitution.

BOSTON, June 28, 1884.

Local Union No. 33 submits the following suggestions of necessary changes in our constitution to the members of the Brotherhood for consideration, and we wish the same to be printed in the July number of the *Carpenter*.

First, That an Index stating the different Articles, the number of the same, also the Sections and *their meaning* be placed on the first page of the Constitution.

Second. We recommand that in Article I.; Sec. 5, on the last line, to read after the word by, (an Equal Assessment on each Member of the Brotherhood, the same to be taken from the Local Funds).

Third. We recommend that in Article III., Sec. 4 (That the Districts be laid out and stated to each Union, over which the District Organizer has control).

Fourth. We recommend that in Article III., Sec. 6, after the word *month* on the fifth line be inserted (and Mail the same to each Member in good standing).

Fifth. We recommend that in Article VIII., Sec. 1, after the word *Organizer* on the third line be inserted (and the nearest Union to the City where the Union is to be organized).

Sixth. We recommend that in Article VIII., Sec. 6, after the word *the* on the second line the words (General Officers of the Brotherhood) be inserted and letters G. S. be erased,

Seventh. We recommend that in Article X., Sec. 5, after the word *President* to insert (also the Vice Pres. and F. S. with their addresses), striking out (and F. S. thereof).

Eighth. We recommend that in Article XI., Sec. 4, after the word *only* on the third line the word (Five) be inserted and the word One be erased.

Ninth. We recommend that Article XII., Sec. 1 be erased and that the following be inserted:

That the Sum of $250 shall be the Death Benefit of any Member in Good Standing. But if said Member should be Lawfully married and His wife should Die, He shall be allowed the Sum of $100. The same to be taken from the aforesaid $250. But if the Member receiving the $100 on the Death of wife fails to keep Himself in good standing with the Union, the remaining $150 will be considered forfeited at His Death.

In no case shall a Member receive Benefit for more than One Wife.

G. A. CAHILL, Cor. Sec.

St. Catherines, Canada.

At a meeting of this Union the following resolutions were adopted:

1st, That this Union is opposed to the proposed changes in Brotherhood benefits,

2nd, That we favor the idea of a general Organizer, and would favor an advance of dues to meet expenses of same.

3d, That the Executive Board, as now constituted, meets with the approval of this Union, our Union having been organized and carried on until the present under the now existing system, it would be damaging to us to have such sweeping changes.

Trade very quiet. Wages same as last report, $2.00 per day; none out of employment.

Cleveland, O.

The following new officers are duly installed; J. C. Lowell, Pres.; H. N. Fisher, Rec. Sec.; P. Freeman, Fin. Sec.; D. McIntosh, Treas.; D. F. Sleeper, Cor. Sec. Union No. 11 is in a prosperous condition. The attendance of the officers the past quarter has been good, and the brothers are coming forward with their dues. The attendance is improving nightly. Now as to the question how to avert a panic, I think the shortening of the hours of labor will, to a certain extent, counteract it. How to accomplish this with the greatest dispatch is the point. If we could form trades assemblies or leagues with other trades in all the great centres and act in concert it would be easy of accomplishment. Our trades assembly of this place, I am sorry to say, does not represent all the trades of this place, but we have a move on foot that I think, will bring them all in the K. of L. with the rest, and if it succeeds it will be complete. The stone cutters of this place are having a hard struggle for eight hours, but their courage is good and they are confident of success. There is a picnic on the 13th for their benefit. I think our general constitution should be amended, Article 1, Section 3 should be added to unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote of all the unions. Article 4 Section 1. The E. B. shall consist of the G. P. and a member of the Brotherhood from the East, one from the South, one from the West, and one from the North. Our local rules should be amended so that the monthly dues shall not be less than forty cents per month, and instead of ten cents being set aside for death and disability it should be raised to fifteen cents per month. Art. 5, Section 2 of Local Rules should be stricken out altogether I am not in favor of making any very sweeping changes. Our constitution has been on trial for nearly two years and it has answered admirably. The endowment has proved a grand success at ten cents per month, and at fifteen it cannot fail. I would not reduce the endowment; it would be receding instead of advancing. However, I hope it will all be done for the best.

Germantown, Pa.

There is plenty of building in Germantown this season and plenty of men to do it. A great many strangers looking for work, but there is no show for them. General wages $2,75, some get $2,50. Branch No. 1 has about 68 members. I hope the coming convention will remedy the defects in our constitution, there is one thing that ought not to be changed, and that is the endowment. should stand as it is $250, and 25 cents per mont., out of the dues of each should be paid into the general fund of the Brotherhood. There ought to be some provision made for a traveling organizer. The General President, to be organizer, ought to be enabled to visit every local union and branches at least once a year.

Charleston, S. C.

New members every meeting—seven at last meeting. Work dull, but there is any quantity of brick work going on.

CHEERING NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Covington, Ky.

Union No. 54 is beginning to look up this month, work fair, wages $2,25-2,50. Rents and living very dear.

Denver, Col.

We initiated four new members last meeting. Trade very dull.

San Rafael, Cal.

We suspended Bro. Arthur McGuire for nonpayment of dues, at our last meeting. Trade very dull, but the wages keep at $3,50 to $4 per day. So much for having a union in the place, for no man will work for less than the above figure.

Chicago, Ill.

On June 7th it was formerly decided to consolidate Union No. 21 into two branches—one German and the other American. This saves a great deal of expense and brings our members closer together. The Germans are desirous of having their own union on account of their unfamiliarity with the English language making it difficult to transact business in a mixed body. Work is picking up; new brick coming in at $7,50 per 1000.

The city is overcrowded with carpenters, and a large number of men are idle. Toward the fall it is likely things will be better. The greater part of the work is large business blocks, many of them fire-proof. The new officers of the Union are: M. Miller, President; J. Effinger and Amos Gardner, Vice Presidents; Fin. and Cor. Sec., Thos. P. Doran; Treasurer, W. Henderson. The two branches of Union No. 21 will be bound together by an Executive Committee of six—three from each branch. The both branches meet on various nights in Florus' Hall, 71 West Lake Street.

Baltimore, Md.

We are having as much as we can attend to at present with our card business. We think we can call it a success, we having accomplished in the last couple of weeks more than the carpenters of Baltimore heretofore ever dreamed of doing or attempting to do. There are only two shops of any account in the city that have not surrendered, and they have no men at work. It all depends now on them not being able to get men from other places, which they are trying to do by offering extra inducements. You can help us by advising men to stay away from here. But I certainly think we ought to feel greatly encouraged by what we have accomplished in comparison with the past condition of our craft in this place, and all it requires of us is faithfulness to our principles and organized effort, and we will soon see the beginning of the end. I think those monthly reports fill a long felt want in our order, and I hope all the unions will do their duty, so they can be made a perfect and complete monthly bulletin of the condition of the order and the state of trade throughout the country.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The work of Union No. 8 in favor of a short hour movement of eight hours work on Saturday has resulted in forming a "Short Hour League," composed of over twenty organizations. A convention for that purpose was held in the New National Theatre, June 19th, at which 45 delegates were present. An enthusastic and harmonious spirit pervaded the convention. Bro. John D. Allen called the meeting to order, and Thos. McGilloway was elected chairman. A committee on organization was elected, and another meeting of the body will be held July 10th. our prize concert on June 12th netted over $150 for the benefit of the Carpenters library and reading room. It is now the talk to hold a week's fair this fall under auspices of Union No. 8 Trade is middling good, wages same as last month.

Hartford, Conn.

New officers of Union No. 43: George Kinghorn, Pres.; Anthony Donovan, Vice Pres.; Jas. A. Robertson, Rec. Sec.; Jas. F. Egan, Fin. Sec.; David Geddie, Cor. Sec.; John A. Cosgrove, Treas.; P. H. Fagan, Conductor; Jas. Howden, Warden.

De Kalb, Ill.

Building trade brisk at present; city growing rapidly. Carpenters average $2,50 per day. Masons and stone cutters scarce, average $4,50.

West Oakland, Cal.

I have just returned from Santa Rosa, which is a thriving little town about one hundred miles from here. I went there for the purpose of organizing a union of our Brotherhood, which I am happy to state I was successful in doing, but not without much trouble. I found it very hard to get a number of carpenters together to listen to what I had to say, as quite a number of them are working a great distance from town. But I am assured by those who have signed their names and taken the pledge to work and do a man's part in the interest of the Brotherhood, and in a short time they will have a vast number enrolled, and I will not be surprised to find at a very early date Santa Rosa a very flourishing union.

R. STEPHENS.

Savannah, Ga.

Our membership, though small, is active and energetic, and although we are organized only a few months, we are prospering nicely. Our officers are: President, L. J. Pettigrew; Vice-President, T. Neville; Rec. Sec., H. C. Holmes; Fin. Sec., W. B. Jenkins; Treas., P. Huston; Cor. Sec., Benj. R. Young. Wages here are from $1,50 to $2,25 per day, some at $1,25, and all union men are at work. Business, however, is dull. We are initiating new members steadily and we are in hope of extending the good work all over the principal cities in Georgia. And for this purpose we are endeavoring to have our charter incorporated by the State. Trade is not as busy as it was. Our regular meeting is on second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Hammond, Ind.

Bro. McGinley and Bro. Myers came to this city on May 30th, and after giving us rousing speeches, installed our Union, with the most flattering prospects before us. At our last meeting we initiated seven new members, and the applications are coming in all the time, and we expect to very soon have every real carpenter in this vicinity. Right here we wish to say that wages are at starvation rates here, but we hope to remedy that soon. Many carpenters came here expecting $2,50-$3 per day. but there are hundreds now working for $1,50, and many cannot get work at all. So we advise men to stay away from Hammond, as it is over run with carpenters.

Columbus, O.

We are now in harness, ready and willing to put our shoulders to the wheel, and aid the good work of Labor's Emancipation, and our prospects seem very flattering. We have 45 paid members and several applications. We shall open correspondence with neighboring towns or make some incursions through their territory, and endeavor to enlist them in our cause. Some are very much afraid of joining our movement through fear of displeasing their employers' "fine feelings," but we assured them that the best contractors in the this city have pronounced and denounced, almost in one breath, pronounced for and in favor of the Union and the benefits resulting from it, and denounced those who were chicken-hearted enough to be afraid of joining it. Bro. M. J. Meers was our delegate to the convention of trades and labor unions of Ohio, held in this city on June 24, which in point of intelligence, enthusiasm and numbers was to say the least most creditable. It is the beginning of a powerful organization which will do a vast amount of good, and will ultimately result in ameliorating the condition of our people. Trade and wages here seem to be at a standstill. Work seems plenty, but the market is overstocked with carpenters. Wages $2 to $2,50.

The following were elected and installed as officers of the Carpenters Union, No. 60: President, W. H. Howard; Vice-Pres., J. McHenry Ryland; Rec. Sec.; John Wright; Fin. Sec., John Cook; Cor. Sec., M. J. Meers; Treas., John Godley; Conductor Robt. F. Knight; Warden, Geo. P. Dallas; Delegates to Trades Assembly, W. H. Howard, M. J. Meers, Geo. P. Dallas, John Cook, John Wright, and Robt. F. Knight.

Cincinnati, O.

Our new officers are: Pres., John Ellick; Vice Pres., Gus. Miller; Rec. Sec., Geo. Wiefering; Fin. Sec., Gus Brethauer; Cor. Sec., John Valerius; Treas., Anthony W. Noertker; Warden, Rud Rottemayer; Trustees, Martin Wolsifer, Henry Barnard, Jos. C. Stein, Robert Lowden, J. Shreckenhofer. Union No. 2 is increasing in membership, and have well attended meetings. Work is brisk, but lots of men to do it. There is a great many strangers in the city. Our picnic on Sunday, June 8th was a success in spite of the rain. Thirty Unions were present. We are making arrangements for another picnic on Monday, Sept. 1st.

Oro, Colorado.

There is not much done here in winter on account of the snow. It is very dull then. Wages are good when one gets a job. They are $4 per day to work seven days in a week. Mostly mining work here. It is a poor place for men to come to now, as the whole state of Colorado is overstocked with men.

Toronto, Canada.

Trade is pretty fair, wages low; very few idle carpenters, and the Brotherhood is beginning to boom here. We have been initiating from four to six at nearly every meeting.

Trade is not very pressing here just now, although I do not know of any idle men. Our new officers: Pres,, Wm. Travis; Vice-Pres., J. McKinley; Rec. Sec., Thos. Painter; Fin. Sec., Andrew Graham; Cor. Sec., Robert Lindsey; Treas., Robt. Lee; Trustees, W. H. Stephens, Chas. Armstrong, M. Bulger; Warden, John McAdam; Conductor, Jas. Stewart; Delegates to Trades Council, Travis, Stevens and R. Gunn.

Toledo, Ohio.

The election at our last meeting resulted as follows: Pres., L. Kimmerlin; Vice-Pres., J. Buck; Rec. Sec., P. W. Myers; Fin. Sec., J. Klueter; Cor. Sec., M. J. Thompson; Treas., Phil Ker; Conductors, R. L. Herhold, W. D. Moor. Union No. 25 is gaining at every meeting. No improvement in the trade; wages $1,75 to $2,50.

List of expelled members to July 1st, 1884, on account of being in arrears: J. J. Stone, J. Howe, Ed. Rathburn, H. C. Caufield, F. Hachath, J. Cavanough, L. C. Roshony, M. Cummings, G. Bossert, J. C. Sheets, S. A. Russell, C. Himmilibach, J. Van Der Mark, T. Moran, John Hammer, John Roper, G. Scharr, W. Monroe, B. Tessir, J. Dunn, John Fleming, H. Jennie, P. Moran.

It falls to my lot to report the first death which has occurred in our union since our organization for which the B. is liable. Bro. John J. Eisinger was one of our best members and always took great interest in the Union, which accounts somewhat for his sad death. On the evening of the 6th inst., after supper, he went to see a carpenter living in the upper part of the town to get his application, and on his way home it was necessary to cross the bridge of the T. C. & H. L. R. R. or go a long way around, and as he had went that way many times before he thought there was no danger, but when near the center of the bridge he was run down by an engine and killed instantly. The coroner's inquest shows that the engine did not give the proper signal and had no headlight burning, and it being night the man was not aware of the approaching danger. His remains were buried on Monday by the Union. Over sixty members marched in procession.

M. J. THOMPSON, Rec. Sec.

—Union No. 2 of Cincinnati has appointed a committee to arrange a picnic in August, during the convention—the date is not yet fixed. Union No. 2 is on the increase since it lowered its initiation fee.

THE COOPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH.

This neat, handy volume of 278 pages, 16 mo. cloth, price one dollar, ought to be read and studied by every person who wants to known what is thought of and what is going in the world around them. The author, LAWRENCE GRONLUND, is neculiarly well fitted for the task having made the labor question his special study for years. On the one side his work is endorsed by the most thoughtful and advanced workingmen in this country, and, on the other, such a conservative and able man as the Hon. Carrole D. Wright, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of Labor, of Mass., has given his recommendation of the work.

In a circular advertising the work the author gives utterance to these glowing sentiments:

Let not yourself be led astray by the remarkable increase everywhere of wealth on the whole,—possibly the under-current is, nevertheless, carrying us swiftly backwards. Suppose you had told a Roman citizen in the age of Augustus that his proud country *then* had entered on its decline,—as every school-boy now knows it had—he would have thought you insane. Now, the many striking parallels between that period and the times in which we are living must have forced themselves on your attention, if you are of a reflective turn of mind, as we assume you are. You will have observed the same destructive forces to which History attributes the fall of pagan Rome busily at work under your very eyes. You see the same mad chase after wealth; you find everywhere the same deadening scepticism in regard to high ideals. You observe in all our centres of activity a corruption—I will not say as great as, but—promising in due time to rival that of the Roman Empire. Be careful not to be too scornful if we prophesy that in, say, twenty-five years from now,—if not the Cooperative Commonwealth should then, perchance, be realized—the demagogues of New York City will buy voters by free public feasts and theatricals, that you will hear the cry of "*panem et circenses*"—"give us bread and circuses," if you live then! Indeed, we have already read in the *N. Y. Tribune*: "Every one of our civil Justices has given a days 'outing' to the wives and children of his district." Even now in many of the States wealth seems a pre-requisite to the attainment of Senatorial honors and millionaires and sons of millionaires are bidding for seats in the lower house of Congress.

But, for reasons hereafter set forth, we do not believe our race will return to barbarism. The Roman Empire was saved from that fate, finally, by being reanimated. Our age as fully needs reanimation as the period of the Cæsars. We shall be reanimated: history will once more see Society reconstructed on a new basis.

Says Huxley: "The reconstruction of Society on a scientific basis is not only possible, but the only political object worth striving for." True, emphatically true! Except so far as it is implied in this sentence that any individual or any nation can go to work and *arbitrarily* reconstruct Society on a scientific or any other basis.

Most reflective minds do admit that we are at the brink of an extraordinary change; that a crisis of *some sort* is impending, no matter if it is likely to burst out now or in ten or fifty years from now. We then say that the only thing that can save us and our children from horrors, ten-fold worse than those of the French Revolution, that can save us from the infliction of such a scourge as Napoleon, will be the activity of a minority, acting as the brains of the Revolution. For while there will be a revolution, it need not necessarily be one marked by blood. We hope it will not be such a one: a revolution by violence is to Society what a hurricane is to a ship struggling on the stormy ocean; it is only by herculean efforts that we shall succeed in avoiding the rocks and bring it into the secure haven, and even then we shall be but at the threshold of our task.

But, then, we must first have in our country this minority: a vigorous minority, even if but a small one; a minority of intelligent and energetic American men and women; a minority with sound convictions as to what the crisis means and how it may made to redound to the welfare of the whole of Society and with the courage of their convictions. Such a minority will be indispensable to render the revolution a blessing, whether it comes peaceably or forcibly. Not that this minority is to *make* the coming Revolution—an individual, a clique, a majority even can as little make a revolution as the fly makes the carriage wheel roll; the Revolution makes itself or "grows itself;" —but this minority is to prepare for it and, when the decisive moment is arrived, act on the masses, as the power acts on the lever. To reach and possibly win this minority—however small—this book has mainly been written.

Sold by all booksellers and newsdealers, and sent by mail, postpaid, on receipt of price.

LEE AND SHEPARD, Publisher, Boston.

Der Carpenter.

New York, Juli 1884.

Gewerkschafts-Notizen.

— Von den 22,000 Lokomotivheizern in Amerika gehören 10,000 zur Brüderschaft.

— Die Spinner von Fall River haben ihren Strike nach 4 Monaten beendet; sie zahlten $22,000 an Strikegeldern aus.

— Das nationale 8-Stundengesetz wird jetzt in einigen Bundes-Departements durchgeführt — wahrscheinlich weil die Präsidentenwahl vor der Thür steht.

— In New York wimmelt es von Zimmerleuten und immer kommen noch mehr zugereist. Wir rathen unseren Mitgliedern von New York wegzubleiben.

— In Parkersburg, W. Va., erhalten Zimmerleute täglich $1.75 bis $2.25. Die B. & O. R. R. zahlt ihren Zimmerleuten nur $1.50 bis $1.75.

— Die vierte jährliche Sitzung der amerikanischen Föderation der Trades und Labor Unions wird Dienstag, 7. Oktober 1884 in Chicago, Ill., stattfinden.

— Boycottet die Sandusky Tool Company! Kauft keine Werkzeuge, die von ihr gemacht sind, denn sie hat ihren Arbeitern verboten, sich an einer Gewerkschaft zu betheiligen.

— Unionleute, nehmt an den Versammlungen Eurer Union Theil. Kommt und ermuthigt durch Eure Gegenwart diejenigen, welche für Euch das Organisationswerk errichten!

— Es wird berichtet, daß in New Orleans unser Geschäft sehr flau geht und wenn die Arbeiten am Ausstellungs-Gebäude nicht wären, würde es sehr schlechte Zeiten geben. Es arbeiten ungefähr 400 Mann in der Ausstellung und die Stadt ist mit Arbeitern gefüllt. Die Löhne sind $2.25 bis $2.75; Viele bekommen die früheren Löhne.

Raubwirthschaft.

Mit diesem Wort bezeichnet man eine solche Verwendung von Naturprodukten und Ausnützung von Naturkräften, durch welche Einzelne für sich großen Vortheil erzielen, der Nation als Ganzes aber, oder der ganzen menschlichen Gesellschaft für Gegenwart und Zukunft großer Schaden zugefügt wird. Hiergegen sich zu schützen, hat die menschliche Gesellschaft ein vollkommenes Recht, welches sich daraus ableiten läßt, daß der Einzelne nur innerhalb der menschlichen Gesellschaft der Segnungen der Cultur und des Fortschritts theilhaftig werden kann. Als Gegenleistung hat jeder die Pflicht, der menschlichen Gesellschaft nützlich zu sein und zu ihrer Fortentwicklung beizutragen und diese hat die Pflicht, Schädigungen durch Einzelne abzuwehren. Diese Pflicht hat aber die menschliche Gesellschaft noch nicht anerkannt und vernachlässigt sie ganz speciell hinsichtlich der Raubwirthschaft, welche auf so mannichfache Weise betrieben wird. Vielfach wird der Schaden, welcher der Gesellschaft zugefügt wird, gar nicht als solcher erkannt. Im günstigsten Fall spricht man zeitweise darüber, ein paar Politiker machen politisches Kapital daraus, einige Zeitungen schreiben gute Artikel darüber, im Uebrigen aber bleibts beim Alten. Man sieht wohl den Schaden, aber man hat keine Lust, an dem System zu rütteln, wonach Jedem es gestattet ist, sich auf Kosten seiner Mitmenschen zu bereichern, wenn er die nöthige Schlauheit und Frechheit dazu besitzt. Man ist zu sehr in das System hineingewachsen, nach welchem jeder für sich selbst sorgen kann, unbekümmert um die Folgen seines Thuns für den Rest der Menschheit, als daß man sich entschließen könnte, durch irgend welche Verordnungen im Namen und zum Besten der Gesammtheit daran zu rütteln! Wie sollten denn auch in Zukunft unsere "Self made men" entstehen, auf die wir so stolz sind, wenn es keine Raubwirthschaft mehr gebe und wo sollte der mit so viel Fleiß unter den Menschen kultivirte Knechts- und Bedienstensinn sich bethätigen, wenn man das Entstehen von „Herren" unmöglich machen wollte?

Von der Raubwirthschaft in einer Richtung, nämlich über die Vernichtung der Wälder dieses Landes, ohne Vorsorge für neue Anpflanzungen zu treffen, wurde in den letzten Jahren ziemlich viel gesprochen und geschrieben, gethan wurde aber nichts. Es wurde schon recht deutlich durch Zahlen gezeigt, wie lange es noch dauert, bis gewisse Holzarten in diesem Lande gar nicht mehr zu finden sein werden, auch wurde gezeigt, welcher Schaden durch Entwaldung ganzer Landstrecken angerichtet werde, aber dies kann unsere Kapitalisten nicht veranlassen, sich gegenseitig in ihrem Geschäfts und Spekulationstrieb zu hindern. Aus diesem Grunde findet auch die Waldvernichtung ebenso gut ihre Vertheidiger, wie jeder andere Raub an der Gesammtheit.

Den in verschiedenen Zeitungen gemachten Vorschlägen für Schonung unserer Nutzholzwälder, tritt ein Artikel im „Bankers Magazine" mit der Behauptung entgegen, daß gar kein Grund vorliege, in dieser Frage etwas zu thun, denn unsere Generation brauche keine Befürchtung zu hegen, daß es ihr jemals am nöthigen Nutzholz fehlen werde. Nachdem in dem Artikel weiter zu zeigen versucht wird, wie ungeheuer unser Holzreichthum noch sei, und wie wenig die gemachten Vorschläge zum Waldschutz taugen, wird kühn behauptet, daß nichts nothwendiger sei, als dieses Nutzholz in Geld umzuwandeln, und daß man es ruhig den Waldbesitzern überlassen könne, zu bestimmen, wann die Zeit zur Schonung des Nutzholzes gekommen sei. Dies ist echt kapitalistisch: nach uns die Sintfluth.

Nicht geringer als in der Land- und Forstwirthschaft werden die Interessen der Gesammtheit, um des augenblicklichen Vortheils Einzelner Willen, in der Industrie geschädigt und zwar durch Verschwendung von Material und Arbeitskraft. Da herrscht die schlimmste Raubwirthschaft, wenn's auch nicht so genannt wird.

Im vernünftigen Sinn hat Arbeit keinen anderen Zweck als den, Werthe zu erzeugen, welche den Menschen zur Erhaltung und Verschönerung ihres Daseins dienen. In der heutigen Industrie wird aber so gewirthschaftet, als wenn für die wirklich Arbeitenden die Arbeit Selbstzweck sei, denn das, was sie von erzeugten Werthen genießen, ist nur ein geringer Theil dessen, was sie erzeugen. Anstatt, daß jeder um so mehr zu genießen im Stande sein sollte, je mehr er erzeugt, ist das umgekehrte der Fall: Je mehr und je schneller producirt wird, desto schneller tritt Ueberproduction ein, die Gelegenheit, neue Werthe zu erzeugen, wird dem Arbeiter entzogen. Während es ihm am Nöthigsten zum Lebensunterhalt fehlt, muß die in ihnen enthaltene Arbeitskraft brach liegen oder wird durch Noth und Entbehrung ganz oder theilweise vernichtet. Und dies Alles, weil es die wenigen kapitalistischen Leiter der Industrie so in ihrem Vortheil finden. Die Gesellschaft als Ganzes wird aber dadurch geschädigt, es ist also Raubwirthschaft.

Diese zeigt sich auch noch auf andere Weise in der Industrie: Ungeheuere Massen von Werthen gingen schon in Lagerhäusern zu Grunde, während die Erzeuger Noth litten, oder wurden verbrannt, um die Ueberproduction zu verringern und zum Weiterproduciren Gelegenheit zu geben. Dies ist Verschwendung von Arbeitskraft und Material auf Kosten der menschlichen Gesellschaft.

Die Raubwirthschaft in ihren verschiedenen Formen wird nicht beseitigt werden, bis die Arbeiter ihre Menschenrechte ansehen, die Bereicherung des Einen auf Kosten aller Andern als ein Unrecht erkennen, und die Arbeit unter ihrer eigenen Kontrolle so organisiren, daß Jedem, der seine Pflicht erfüllen will, auch seine Rechte gesichert sind.

(„Möbel-Arbeiter-Journal.")

Die Gewerkschaft und ihre Aufgabe.

Verkäufer und Käufer einer Waare haben bekanntlich ein ganz entgegengesetztes Interesse: Der Verkäufer sucht einen möglichst hohen Preis für möglichst wenig Waare zu erzielen; der Käufer dagegen will viel Waare für wenig Geld einhandeln. Dieser Grundsatz gilt auch im Verkehr zwischen Fabrikanten, oder allgemeiner gesagt, zwischen Unternehmern und Arbeitern. Beide sind Partei und stehen gewissermaßen unter dem Zwang ihrer verschiedenen Interessen. Der Unternehmer erstrebt eine Vermehrung seines Kapitals und damit eine Steigerung der ökonomischen Macht; der Arbeiter will einen Lohn erzielen, dessen Höhe ihm mindestens die ausreichende Befriedigung seiner Bedürfnisse gestattet.

Das materielle Interesse also ist es, welches den Unternehmer veranlaßt, den Lohn zu erniedrigen, die Arbeitszeit zu verlängern &c.; und es bleibt sich hierbei vollkommen gleich, ob die Concurrenz seiner Mitbewerber oder ein anderer Grund ihn dazu treibt: den Arbeiter aber spornt es an, diese Angriffe abzuschlagen, oder in günstiger Zeit den Versuch zu wagen, einen Vortheil zu erringen.

Die Unzulänglichkeit des Widerstandes aber, welchen der Einzelne dem Unternehmer entgegenzusetzen vermag, zeigt deutlich genug, daß er eine Null, ein Nichts ist gegen die Kapitalmacht. Diese Ohnmacht des Einzelnen, welche jedem klar sein muß, weist dringend auf die Nothwendigkeit eines festen Aneinanderschließens, auf den Anschluß an eine Gesammtheit hin. Und diese Gesammtheit wird durch das einmüthige und planmäßige Zusammenwirken der Einzelkräfte eine Macht bilden, mit der stets gerechnet werden muß.

Diese Erwägungen führten zur Bildung von Gewerkschaften, welche den Zweck haben, das Interesse der vereinigten Arbeiter (also jedes Einzelnen), den Unternehmern gegenüber zu vertreten. Naturgemäß entfalten sie ihre Hauptthätigkeit bei den Versuchen, in die Regelung der Lohn und Arbeits-Verhältnisse einzugreifen. Ihre Waffe ist das zweischneidige Messer der Arbeitsverweigerung, der Strike. Oft genug werden die Arbeiter herausgefordert, von dieser Waffe Gebrauch zu machen. Wie schon oben angedeutet, geschieht dies, um Differenzen, welche durch eine Erhöhung der Preise der Lebensbedürfnisse zwischen ihren Einnahmen und Ausgaben entstanden sind, durch eine Mehrforderung am Arbeitslohn auszugleichen, oder Lohnreduktionen und die Einführung unwürdiger Fabrik-Ordnungen zu verhindern. Der Gewerkschaft aber, dieser Schutzvereinigung der Arbeiter, ist es dieserhalb auch unmöglich, Strikes ganz zu vermeiden.

„Es kann der Beste nicht in Frieden leben,
Wenn es dem bösen Nachbar nicht gefällt."

Dennoch aber darf keine Organisation von Arbeitern den Strike zum Hauptzweck erheben, wie dies faktisch von den englischen Gewerkschaften geschieht. Diese sind zur flachen Thätigkeit reiner Strike-Vereine herabgesunken, und die alten amerikanischen Gewerkschaften folgen diesem Beispiel nach. Die Unterstützung kranker und reisender Mitglieder kann an diesem Hauptprinzip nichts ändern. Auf die Dauer aber können auch diese Gewerkschaften des alten Zopfstyls sich nicht damit begnügen, ewig und ewig um einige Cents Lohnerhöhung zu kämpfen, und so einen endlosen Guerillakrieg gegen die Ausbeutungssucht des Privatunternehmers zu führen. Sie müssen noch einen großen Schritt weiter gehen. Ihre Aufgabe ist es, die Mitglieder aufzuklären, daß ihnen nicht dauernd geholfen werden kann, so lange das System der privaten Produktion, der vielen Einzelnen durch einzelne Wenige, gesetzlich zu Recht besteht. Und eine Gewerkschaft, welche dies nicht erkennt, kann sich auf die Dauer nicht behaupten, sie wird und muß zu Grunde gehen, und die Schuld daran tragen die Unkenntniß und die Unfähigkeit der Leiter und Führer. Darum fort mit dem Plunder alter, verrotteter und einseitiger Ideen in die Rumpelkammer der Weltgeschichte, daß die Seele frei werde, um den Geist der Zukunft zu erfassen.

Die Beseitigung des Konfliktes zwischen Kapital und Arbeit aber kann nur durch die Aufhebung der kapitalistischen Produktion erfolgen. Diese soll der gemeinsamen genossenschaftlichen Arbeit den Platz räumen. Die Arbeitsmittel sollen (ebenso wie das Land) Eigenthum der Gesammtheit werden. Und ehe dies nicht geschieht, wird dem Arbeiter der Ertrag seiner Arbeit nicht unverkürzt zu Theil werden.

Es ist wohl Jedem einleuchtend, daß dieses Ziel nicht durch einen noch so erbitterten Strike errungen werden kann. Der Arbeiterstand kann auch nun und nimmer den sozialen Druck durch kleinliche Parteispielereien von sich abwälzen; er kann dies ebenso wenig, wie der Denkende es vermag, sich mit einem wohlfeilen Witz über den Ernst der Zeit hinweg zu täuschen.

Die Gewerkschaft hat also die Aufgabe, den Arbeitern klar zu machen, daß ihre soziale Befreiung, also die gänzliche Erlösung der Arbeiter aus der Lohnsklaverei, nur auf dem Wege der politischen Selbständigkeit erreicht werden kann. (Progreß.)

Wichtige Bekanntmachung.

Keine Lokal Union unserer Brüderschaft, die mit ihrer Kopfsteuer, oder Geldern für Material oder Sterbefälle beim General Sekretär im Rückstande ist, hat das Recht, bei der am Dienstag, 5. August 1884 in Cincinnati stattfindenden Konvention vertreten zu sein. Siehe Sek. 6, Art. 1, Seite 4 unserer Allgemeinen Konstitution. Alle Beiträge, Steuern und Sterbegelder müssen deßhalb bis zum 1. Juli 1884 bezahlt sein, damit eine Union sich durch Delegaten vertreten lassen kann und solche Unionen, welche gegen das Gesetz verstoßen, sind nicht vertretungsberechtigt.

Unsere Brüderschaft.

In den wenigen Jahren, seit welchen unsere Brüderschaft existirt, hat sich überall, wohin sie gedrungen ist, die Lage der Zimmerleute gebessert.

Die Löhne haben sich mehr auf derselben Höhe gehalten, wo sie nicht gestiegen sind, während größtentheils die Arbeitszeit verkürzt worden ist.

Das System der halsabschneiderischen Konkurrenz, welches den Einen gegen den Andern zum Feinde machte, ist der Cooperation und der Brüderlichkeit gewichen.

Die Stückarbeit, welche in manchen Städten der Ruin unseres Handwerks war, ist vermindert und an vielen Orten vertrieben worden.

Betrügerische Kontraktoren, welche ihre Arbeiter um ihre kärglichen Löhne beschwindelten, sind zur Raison gebracht worden.

Das ganze Handwerk hat sich gehoben, ist würdiger und respektvoller geworden.

Aber dies war keine leichte Arbeit! Wir haben uns schwer bemüht und unaufhörlich gearbeitet und agitirt, bis wir in muthiger, geduldiger Ergebung dies Ziel erreichten. In jeder Stadt war ein kleines Häuflein getreuer, nobler und uneigennütziger Männer, welche das Banner der Gewerkschaft unter den Zimmerleuten emporhielten und ihre Mitarbeiter ermuthigten, sich zu organisiren und für ihr gemeinsames Wohl zu wirken. Mit wahrem Heldenmuth haben sie der guten Sache unschätzbare Dienste geleistet. Und sie können wohl mit Stolz auf ihr Werk zurückblicken.

Die Brüderschaft der Carpenter ist jetzt ein stehender Faktor in der amerikanischen Arbeiterbewegung geworden. Während sie sich bemühte, die Zimmerleute zu organisiren und emsig dabei beschäftigt ist, reicht sie den anderen Gewerken brüderlich die Hand. Jede Lokal Union steht mit der Trades Assembly oder dem Labor Council ihrer Lokalität in Verbindung und wenn solche nicht bestehen, bemüht sie sich, dieselben hervorzurufen. Bei der Organisirung von Baugewerkschaften haben wir ganz besonderen Antheil genommen und dafür gesorgt, daß Organisationen entstanden, in welchen alle Baugewerke vertreten sind; wir sind mit der Föderation der Trades und Labor Unions der Ver. Staaten und Canada verbündet, welche jährlich zusammentritt und aus Delegaten von allen bedeutenderen lokalen, nationalen und internationalen Gewerkschaften zusammengesetzt ist. Dieses verbündet uns mit ihnen zu einer allgemeinen Union, um die Interessen der Arbeiter allenthalben zu wahren.

Vermittels unseres Journals, des „Carpenter", werden unsere Mitglieder regelmäßig einmal im Monat über die Löhne und den Stand des Geschäftes in jeder Stadt und die Interessen des Gewerkes im Allgemeinen auf dem Laufenden erhalten.

Wir haben ein Unterstützungs-System, welches unsere Brüderschaft zu einer der besten Versicherungsanstalten für unsere Mitglieder macht. Mit unserer allgemeinen Sterbekasse, welche für jeden Sterbefall $250 auszahlt, sind lokale Kranken- und Werkzeugversicherungskassen verbunden.

Aus allen diesen Gründen sollten wir stolz auf unsere Brüderschaft sein! Sie hat ein nobles Werk errichtet und unsere Pflicht ist es jetzt, nicht nachzulassen, bis jeder ehrliche Zimmermann in Amerika zu uns gehört. Mit dem Eifer und dem Ethusiasmus von Missionären wollen wir ausgehen unter diejenigen, die uns noch fern stehen, damit sie zu Mitgliedern werden. Dies Jahr muß für unsere gute Sache ein glorreiches Jahr werden. Arbeitet getreulich, Einer und Alle. Wir erwarten, daß jeder von Euch seine volle Pflicht thut!

Unsere nächste Konvention.

Die nächste Konvention der Brüderschaft der Carpenters und Joiners von Amerika wird am Dienstag 5. August 1884 in der Arbeiterhalle, Walnut Str., Cincinnati, O., stattfinden. Die Eröffnung erfolgt um 10 Uhr, Vormittags. Quartiere für die Delegaten wird das von Union No. 2 ernannte Empfangs Komitee besorgen. Die Ankündigung wird den Delegaten durch Privatbriefe gemacht werden.

Die Unionen und Mitglieder, welche über Unvollkommenheit in unserer Konstitution geklagt haben, können ihre Ansichten und Vorschläge im „Carpenter" darlegen und doch ist es seltsam, das gerade die Beschwerdeführer das bis jetzt noch nicht gethan haben. Wenn die nächste Konvention ihren Wünschen nicht entspricht, haben sie es nur sich selbst zuzuschreiben.

— Bruder A. McKinley, früher in New Orleans, ist jetzt in New York. Bruder Gustav Luebkert ist nach Parkersburgh, W. Va., auf's Land gegangen, um seine Gesundheit zu stärken.

Brüderschafts-Nachrichten.

— Bruder Carr von Union No. 50 in Portland ist in Vancouva, W. T., wo er bald eine neue Union organisiren wird. So sollte es jeder unserer reisenden Brüder machen.

— Unions, die keine Delegaten zu unserer Konvention nach Cincinnati schicken können, weil die Entfernung zu groß ist, mögen ihre Instruktionen dem General-Sekretär zusenden, damit sie der Konvention vorgelegt werden können.

— Union No. 48 zu Victoria, B. C., kämpfte tapfer, um dies Frühjahr die 9stündige Arbeitszeit einzuführen und es gelang ihr dies auch zuerst für die Mehrzahl der Union Jobs. Dann aber kam ein so starker Einwandererstrom nach jener Gegend, daß die Errungenschaft wieder verloren ging und die Agitation für eine Weile eingestellt werden mußte.

— Union No. 21 von Chicago hat in No. 106 East Randolph Str., Chicago, Ill., ein Arbeitsbureau etablirt und ein Lokal eingerichtet, welches zu bestimmten Stunden geöffnet ist und unter Leitung des „Walking Delegate" steht, der während des Tages bei den verschiedenen Jobs umhergeht, um die Beiträge der rückständigen Unionmitglieder einzukassiren und dafür zu sorgen, daß Leute, die noch nicht zu uns gehören, der Union beitreten.

— Union No. 2 von Cincinnati hat für den Zimmermann's Strike in Leipzig, Deutschland, $10 beigesteuert. Andere haben ebenfalls bestimmte Beträge gezeichnet. Das von den Leipziger Zimmerleuten ausgesandte Circular wurde den Lokal Unions direkt zugeschickt und ging nicht durch die Hände des Exekutiv Board, noch wurde es gutgeheißen. Dies diene manchen Unions, welche uns um Aufklärung gebeten haben, zur Nachricht.

— Die New Yorker Brickleger haben sich zu einer Bewegung für die 9stündige Arbeitszeit in dieser Saison geeinigt und sie werden bald daran gehen, den Plan zur Ausführung zu bringen. Es würde dies schon früher geschehen sein, wenn nicht einige Mitglieder der Ansicht gewesen wären, es sei besser, vorher von der Legislatur ein 8 Stunden-Gesetz zu verlangen. Sie verlangten es und — jetzt haben sie das Nachsehen!

Eine Maurer-Halle.

Die projektirte Halle, welche die Brickleger Union zu Philadelphia bauen will, soll Ecke Broad Str. und Fairmount Avenue errichtet werden und $18,000 bis $20,000 kosten. Die Brickmacher jener Stadt haben die Ziegelsteine für den Bau geschenkt und jedes Mitglied der Union wird zu dem Baufond den Ertrag einer Tagesarbeit beisteuern. Die Halle soll 3 Stockwerke haben und im Grundfloor sollen sie Läden befinden.

Erfreulicher Fortschritt.

Diesen Moment haben wir das Vergnügen, anzukündigen, daß sich unter unserer Jurisdiktion 10 neue Unions gebildet haben.

Es wurden Charters bewilligt für:

No. 59 — Hammond, Ind.; 60 Eaglwood, Ill.; 61 — Columbus, Ohio; 62 — Santa Rosa, Cal.; 63 — New Tacoma, Wash. Terr.; 64 — Chayenne, Wyom. Terr.; 65 — Grand Rapids, Mich.; 66 — Houston, Texas; 67 — Syracuse, N. Y. und 68 — Des Moines, Iowa.

Außerdem liegen Applikationen von provisorischen Unions vor, die kürzlich gegründet wurden in: Raleigh, N. C.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Quincy, Ill. und Decatur, Ill.; Vorbereitungen werden gemacht für Unions in: Lynchburg, Va.; Springfield, Ill.; Batavia, N. Y.; Rochester, N. Y.; Helena, Montana; Pittsfield, Mass.; Muscatine, Iowa; Akron, Ohio und Pierce City, Mo. Dies ist das Resultat der umfangreichen Korrespondenz, welche kürzlich von unserem General-Sekretär eröffnet wurde.

Union No. 9 in Buffalo möchte sich auch gerne wieder in unsere Brüderschaft aufnehmen lassen und Union No. 10 in Detroit ist dabei, sich zu reorganisiren.

Wir haben somit 8 neue Unions diesen Monat und in den 14 genannten Städten haben wir Aussicht, im kommenden Monat 7 neue Unions zu bekommen. Die Zunahme unserer Mitgliederzahl ist ebenso erfreulich, denn sie betrug im Monat Mai 400 und im Juni 460 Mann.

Dies alles beweist gewiß, daß die Brüderschaft der Carpenter eine thätige, vorwärtsschreitende und aggressive Organisation ist und in nicht ganz entfernter Zeit wird sie jede Stadt von irgend welcher Bedeutung in Amerika umfassen.

Frohe Kunde von vielen Seiten.

Scharon, Pa.

Ich bin ein Kontraktor, aber ich freue mich, wenn die Löhne steigen; dies ist indessen ohne Organisation nicht möglich. Vor einigen Jahren war hier ein Verein, aber er war unabhängig von allen anderen. Sie fingen einen Strike an, der nur einen Tag dauerte und das zerstörte die Union. Die Leute könnten ganz leicht 50 Cents mehr pro Tag in dieser Saison bekommen, wenn sie nur einig wären. Der Lohn ist jetzt $1.75 bis $2 per Tag; sehr wenige bekommen $2. In den benachbarten Städten ist der Lohn höher. D. C.

Ottawa, Canada.

Voriges Jahr versuchten die hiesigen Zimmerleute, sich zu organisiren, damit sie Samstags um 4 Uhr Nachmittags mit der Arbeit aufhören könnten. Einige wenige Bosse bewilligten die Forderung, andere ließen nur 5 Uhr Abends aufhören. Dies Jahr hört man davon nichts mehr, weil die Leute ihre Organisation nicht aufrecht erhalten haben. Es soll nun eine neue Union gegründet werden, um zu sehen, ob wir nichts thun können, um unserer Lage zu bessern. Löhne sind hier $1.75 bis $2 pro Tag.

Batavia, N. Y.

Hier giebt's 150 Zimmerleute und ich habe unter ihnen gewirkt, um eine Union zu gründen. Viele gaben mir sehr ermuthigende Antworten und deßhalb wird es leicht sein, die Sache in Fluß zu bringen. Einer unserer hervorragendsten Bauunternehmer sagte, er wäre froh, wenn in Batavia eine Carpenters Union gegründet würde, weil dann die guten Arbeiter sich selbst schützen und die Bosse bessere Leute bekommen könnten.

Lynchburg, Va.

Die Löhne für Zimmerleute betragen hier $1.50 per Tag und keine Union existirt hier. Wir brauchen eine Union sehr nothwendig und es soll eine organisirt werden.

Raleigh, N. C.

Vor zwei Monaten haben wir hier eine Union gegründet und 200 Mitglieder aufgenommen. Der Vorschlag, uns der Brüderschaft anzuschließen, wurde mit enthusiastischem Beifall aufgenommen.

office, but we find that the time has arrived when some decisive means would be employed to bring this office under the jurisdiction of our Union. There are several men in that office willing to join the Union, but by so doing they would be immediately discharged, and, business being dull at the present time, they are compelled to remain as they are, in order to procure a livelihood. By Boycotting, we mean not only the two papers, but all the Business Men who advertsie in them; we refuse to buy anything out of their establishment."

— Unsere Carpenters' Unions sollten allenthalben darauf hinwirken, daß am Samstag die Arbeitszeit auf 8 Stunden reducirt wird, vorausgesetzt, daß sie nicht stark genug sind, um eine Reduktion alle Wochentage zu erreichen. Unsere Unions in Boston und Philadelphia haben den Ball ins Rollen gebracht und Hartford wird bald folgen. Wer kommt aber dann?

— Die 8-Stundenbewegung wird jetzt in allen Gewerkschaften und Arbeiter-Organisationen diskutirt, in der Absicht, sie nächstes Frühjahr zum Durchbruch zu bringen. Es wäre viel besser gewesen, wenn man dies ein paar Jahre früher gethan hätte, statt erst höhere Löhne zu verlangen. Es würden dann mehr Leute Beschäftigung gefunden haben und dann wären ja die Löhne ganz von selbst in die Höhe gegangen.

Der Durchschnittslohn der Zimmerleute ist in der jetzigen Saison an verschiedenen Orten wie folgt: In Maine, Vermont und New Hamshire $2 per Tag; Massachusets und Connecticut $2.25 bis $2.50; Rhode Island $2 bis $2.25; New York $2.50; New Jersey und Pennsylvania $2.25; Georgia, Alabama und Mississippi $2 bis $3; Jacksonville, Florida $2.50 bis $3; Tennessee $2.25 bis $3; Ohio, Illinois und Indiana $2.50; Michigan $2 bis $2.50. In den nordwestlichen Staaten 5 bis 15 Prozent mehr als in den Central Staaten. Montana $3.50; Colorado $2.50 bis $2.75; Texas $2.50 bis $3. In Maryland, Delaware und Virginia sind die Löhne niedriger als irgendwo anders. In allen Staaten ist der Markt von Zimmerleuten überfüllt.

Kürzere Arbeitszeit.

Durch erhebliche Lohnerhöhungen und beträchtliche Verkürzung der durchschnittlichen bisher üblichen Arbeitszeit, würde, wie Marx ganz richtig nachweist, die Arbeitsmethode so sehr verbessert und die Maschinerie so sehr vervollkommnet, daß dem Unternehmer der durch die Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit und durch die Erhöhung der Löhne verursachte Ausfall am Ausbeutungsertrage durch erhöhte Produktivität wieder ersetzt würde. Was hätten die Arbeiter in diesem Falle nun verloren? Nichts. Und was hätten sie gewonnen? Gewonnen hätten sie freie Zeit, das heißt Lebenskraft, das heißt ein Stück Freiheit.

Sie hätten aber auch materiell etwas gewonnen, selbst dann, wenn die Löhne nicht gestiegen wären. Die Arbeitskraft eines Organismus reicht nicht über ein bestimmtes, ihm innewohnendes Maß hinaus; sie ist begrenzt. Wird die Arbeitskraft in kurzer Zeit gegen die Reproduktionskosten aufgerieben, so wird die gesammte Lohnsumme für die Arbeitskraft eines Individuums viel kleiner sein, als wenn seine Arbeitskraft langsamer verausgabt wird und es während dieser längeren Zeit auch nur seine nothwendigen Unterhaltungskosten erhielte. Einige Zahlen werden dies illustriren.

Angenommen: Die Arbeitskraft eines modernen Lohnarbeiters hält 30 Jahre bei täglich zehnstündiger Anstrengung an. Das Jahr sei hier zu 300 Arbeitstagen gerechnet. Der Mann bekommt $10 die Woche. Das ergibt $520 für die 3000 Arbeitsstunden eines Jahres. Der Mann erhält also für die Arbeitskraft seines ganzen Lebens 30 Mal 520 = $15,600. Die Arbeitskraft eines Arbeiterlebens, nach diesem Maßstabe gemessen, ist also kapitalistisch $15,600 werth, dafür wurden 90,000 Stunden Arbeit geleistet.

Rechnen wir nun die 90,000 Stunden Arbeitskraft auf eine tägliche achtstündige Leistung, so ergibt dies auf 300 Tage 2400 Arbeitsstunden jährlich. Der Mann, der acht Stunden täglich arbeitet, spart also 600 Arbeitsstunden jährlich, gleich 60 Tage alter Arbeitszeit oder 75 Tage nach der neuen Arbeitszeit, er bekommt aber denselben Lohn wie früher. Früher erschöpfte der Mann in 30 Mal 300 gleich 9000 Arbeitstagen seine Arbeitskraft; bei achtstündiger Arbeit erschöpft er dieselbe Kraftmenge erst in 11,250 Stunden.

Früher erhielt der Mann für 1560 Wochen bei täglich 10stündiger Arbeit $10 die Woche, also in Summe für die Arbeitskraft seines Lebens $15,600; bei achtstündiger Arbeitszeit verausgabt er dieselbe Lebenskraft erst in 1875 Wochen und erhält dafür, selbst wenn der Lohn nicht gestiegen, $18,750. Er hat also volle 20 Prozent mehr Lohn für seine Arbeitskraft erhalten, wie vordem, und 20 Prozent mehr freie Zeit gehabt, wie vordem; und das sollte kein Vortheil sein?

Es ist aber gar nicht anzunehmen, daß der Lohn nach einer eingetretenen Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit nur derselbe bliebe, er müßte vielmehr nach dem Gesetz von Angebot und Nachfrage nothwendig steigen, weil das Angebot von Händen dadurch vermindert würde. Wenn nun, wie wir gerne zugeben, durch Lohnerhöhungen und Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit immer bessere Arbeitsmethoden ersonnen und immer vollkommnere Maschinen konstruirt werden, um dem Kapital trotzdem einen möglichst großen Profit zu ermöglichen, so ist uns diese technische Entwickelung sehr erwünscht, weil gerade dadurch mehr als durch alles Andere der Zusammenbruch der alten Gesellschaft beschleunigt wird. (Chicagoer Arbeiterblatt.)

— Unter dem Namen "Short-Hour-League" hat sich in Philadelphia eine Organisation gebildet, deren einziger Zweck es sein soll, eine Agitation zur Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit herbeizuführen. Gegründet wurde diese Organisation von der Carpenter Union No. 8 und fand am 19. Juni eine Versammlung statt, wo sich 20 Arbeiterverbindungen durch Delegaten vertreten ließen.

— Bei einer Uebersicht über die Liste der Unions finden wir, daß das Sterbegeld sich wie folgt verhält: Cigarrenmacher $30; Eisengießer $100; Amalgamated Carpenters $ 60; Amalgamated Engineers $60; und so geht es in der Liste von $30 bis $100 mit Ausnahme unserer Brüderschaft, die $250 bezahlt und der Lokomotivführer und Heizer, die $1000 zahlen. Manche unserer Mitglieder denken, daß $250 für unsere Brüderschaft zu viel sei und daß die Summe auf $100 reducirt werden sollte. Andere wieder — und es sind ihrer viele — halten dafür, daß es ein Vertrauensbruch sei und uns schaden würde, wenn wir eine Reduktion eintreten ließen. Die Letzteren sind der Meinung, es sei nichts weiter nöthig, die Maschinerie zur Eintreibung des Geldes herzustellen und die Unterstützung auszuzahlen. Zwischen diesen beiden Ansichten muß die Konvention entscheiden und dann wäre es gut, die Sache allen Mitgliedern zur Abstimmung vorzulegen.

BLACK LIST.

WILLIAM COPELAND of Portland Union No. 50 was expelled May 23th for working piece work.

DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

ERICK C. PAULSEN, member in good standing of Chicago Union No, 21, died Feb. 1, 1884. Assessment No. 18.

JOHN CLASBY, a member in good standing of Boston Union No. 33, aged 42 years, died May 24, 1884, of fracture of skull by falling from a building. Assessment No. 19.

JOHN EISSINGER, a member in good standing of Toledo Union No. 25, aged 54 years, died June 7, 1884, killed by railroad accident. Assessment No. 20.

JOSEPH SMITH, a member of New Orleans Union No. 16, aged 64 years, died May 11, 1884, of malarial fever. Assessment No. 21.

CARD OF THANKS.

Shortly after my house was destroyed by fire some of my friends and brothers of Union No. 25 started a subscription list for my benefit and many of the members liberally donated, and at our last meeting I was agreeably surprised when Bro. Klueter took me aside, handing me the money that had been collected. Now I wish to thank those who started the movement, and also to those who so liberally donated to the same.

Toledo, O., July 3, 1884.

M. J. THOMPSOM.

MORE CHEERING NEWS.

Reading, Pa.

This is a very slow city for labor organizations; the Trades and Labor Council of this city have been trying to organize all branches of labor, and have met with but little success, still at the present time we have five organizations represented in our council, with a prospect of a couple more shortly, and now we are at work on the carpenters.

Syracuse, N. Y.

We have succeeded in organizing a local Union under the jurisdiction of the Bro. of C. & J. A. We called a mass meeting June 30, and our efforts were not fruitless. The result of this call was that as respectable and intelligent a lot of men gathered as anyone ever had the opportunity to see. There were 25 of the best skilled carpenters and very able speakers present. We discussed the necessity of organizing, and they were all anxious to organize. G. Heilganz of Cigar Makers I. T. U. No. 6 presided. They elected a temporary Chairman, named *James Sutherton*. There are about 600 carpenters resident in this city.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.

We had a meeting July 1st, installed the proper officers, and are in working order with a very favorable outlook. As you are aware we are in the far west, but we have a very fine city here, about 6000 inhabitants. I think by the fall it will be grown. There is about 300 carpenters here. We have but very few idle men at present in the city. Standard wages, $3,25 per day, but there is enough here for the demand. Larima City to west and Buffalo to north need, carpenters unions.

Austin, Texas.

Work has been fairly good the past few months, but it is now getting dull. Wages are low on account of the competition on the sides of both the men and the bosses, and for want of organization to stop it. Wages run from $2,50 to $3,50 for ten hours work. We are organizing a union under your Brotherhood laws.

San Francisco, Cal.

Trade is middling good, and our Union is in fine condition, getting new members every meeting. The heavy rain storms of late have done serious damage to grain and fruit. These rain storms are very rare in June. Recently we received a petion from 26 carpenters of Stockton, Cal., that they desire to form a Union there and the matter is now in the hands of District Organizer. It is astounding to see the number of strange faces we meet in the trade every day, and these fellows get work and are non-union men. It is at less wages by far than what we get.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

On the evening of June 21st we had a meeting of the carpenters, and it was the best meeting of carpenters ever held here. Two hundred present and all willing to take the obligation of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. We organized a union and elected the following officers: President, A. M. Better; Vice-President, Mit Fortin; Rec. Sec., Frank May; Fin. Sec., T. Barniby; Cor. Sec., M. Hall; Treas., Wm. T. Luther; Conductor, A. M, Fowler; Warden, J. Donelson; Trustees. D. D. Cook, S. Hyatt.

Trenton, N. J.

The mass meeting on June 6th, has proved a benefit so far, and will, I think, continue to do good. Since the meeting! we have elected fifteen new members with several more applications pending. Work is plenty, good men are in demand, the most of them are getting $2,50 per day. Your late visit here was much appreciated, not only by our members, but by those who were interested enough in the cause to be present at our public meeting. A few more meetings on more favorable evenings would no doubt place us on a solid foundation.

Milwaukee, Wis.

The members of Union No. 30 are making every endeavor to stir up the slow going Carpenters of this city, as organization is the great need of this city. The prospects for work this season are not by any means bright.

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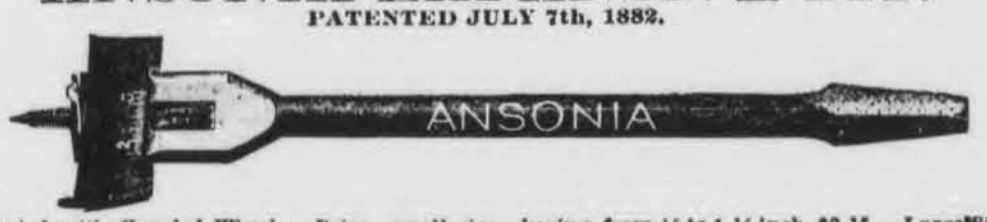

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1884. NUMBER 8.

THE NEW YORK BRICKLAYERS WIN THE NINE HOURS.

More than 5000 men in the house building trades in New York city struck last month for one hour off the day's labor, making the standard nine instead of ten hours per day. A few employers conceded the hour at once, a number more came in to the arrangement by ten o'clock, and by noon 3000 of the strikers were back at their work successful in their demand. It was very generally admitted that the contractors who held out would have to succumb eventually. This is material progress toward shortening the labor-day. Experience shows the difficulty of securing this reduction by law as the first step. The starter should be the demand and the proof that this demand can be maintained. After that will come the law declaratory of what is to be regarded as legally a day's labor. Our opinion is that if the demand had been for nine hours instead of eight success would have before this crowned the efforts hitherto made. But since the present tendency is toward restriction of production, we should fancy a great part of the obstacles hitherto in the way of reducing the standard would be removed, and the difficulty in securing nine hours not insurmountable. Eight hours for trades working for day's wages seems to have been a bigger bite than could be conveniently masticated; certainly a bigger one than employers could swallow without giving evidence of choking. How would it do to modify the orginal proposition and set to work to gain one hour first? —*Labor Tribune.*

A JOURNALIST'S OPINION.

"Gath", the brilliant New York correspondent of the *Cincinnati Enquirer* in speaking of the labor situation in this city ventures the following very sage observations: A huge strike of carpenters and brick-layers was set up for this summer, and was intended to have come off a month ago. It was supposed to be pretty well over when it broke out a week or two past in demand not for wages but for less hours a week. It had been a success partly, because the builders believed they could do almost as much work in nine steady hours of summer work as in ten hours. The men would work harder to get through and enjoy the evening. Since the strike was settled I have heard no complaints from either side. A huge amount of work has been undertaken in this town, such as putting up office buildings, new factories, new flat houses and new hotels and private residences in great number. All the labor fit for this kind of work was in employment, considerable of it was instable, and by the gift of an hour's labor for summer excursions of summer nights, the business has been enlivened rather than put back.

—Thomas McVill is the Vice-President of the Savannah Union No. 57.

—S. Vanwye is Corresponding Secretary of Union 56, Los Angeles, Cal.

—Bro. J. H. Rishel of Cheyenne is Deputy Organizer for Wyoming Territory.

—Bro. Stephens of Oakland, Cal. will soon institute a new union under our jurisdiction in Stockton, Cal.

—In Hartford, Conn., trade is not brisk, but all members are employed. Union No. 43 will hold a picnic this month.

—Bro. L. E. Rames of Charleston, S. C., will soon organize Columbia, S. C. We propose to push our organization through the South and organize the trade, irrespective of color.

TRADE NOTES.

A movement for less hours is a movement for more wages.

—Political excitement will pass away, but Trade Unions must live.

—The Stair Builders and Carpenters Unions have each appointed a conference committee to bring about an amalgamation of the two unions.

—Workers, the landlords and capitalists trust to you to provide the army and the police to protect their right to plunder you. Don't you think you had better protect yourselves?

—Is there one single useful or necessary duty performed by the Capitalists to-day which the people organized could not perform for themselves?

—A snob is a child of aristocratic society. Perched on a step of the long ladder, he respects the man on the round above him, and despises the man on the step below, without inquiring what they are worth, solely on account of their position; in his innermost heart he finds it natural to kiss the boots of the first and kick the second!

—In Russia children under twelve years of age cannot be employed in factories, and between the ages of 12 and 15 they cannot be employed more than eight hours per day, and must attend school at least three hours a day. It is only in countries that lay claim to "high civilization" that children of seven or eight years of age are employed in mills from ten to twelve hours out of the twenty-four.

—The blacksmiths of Pesth, Austria, have struck. They are required to work fourteen hoars a day and half time on Sundays, for which they receive $2.50 per week. Their employers laugh at these exorbitant demands.

—Years ago the Durham (England) miners were completely at the mercy of their employers, whose oppression continually drove them into strikes. Now it is different. Now as Sir Joseph Pease said in Parliament, "they are abundantly able to take care of themselves," and this is all the fruits of a properly conducted union.

—Let us avoid all strikes if possible, for every failure will discourage and weaken the organization for years. Whenever a grievance exists, weigh the possible chances of success before considering the justice of the case; for it is power and not justice that wins. Under all circumstances, remember that in order to maintain our principles we must maintain our organization.—*Cigar Makers Official Journal.*

—The Cigar Makers lock-out in Cincinnati is now going on for eighteen weeks. Of 1,166 that were locked out but six deserted the union and went scabbing. This proves a wonderful determination in a struggle for a just cause.

—"Cheap labor means China with her millions of poor, with her stunted growth, and inferior race. Dear labor means America with her free and intelligent citizens. Low wages will destroy our free institutions."

—The Amalgamated Carpenters have proven by statistics the benefits of a reduction of the hours of labor in our trade. By gaining the nine hour system for their members they have given 107,373 hours of rest per week to their members, thus making room to employ 1992 more persons each week who otherwise would be in the labor market begging for work and cutting down wages.

ACROSS THE SEA.

GERMANY.—The Strike of furniture-makers in Berlin, during which some 11,000 men were out of work has terminated to the advantage of the men. They have obtained a reduction of the hours labor to nine and a half.

FRANCE.—The journeymen boot-makers of Paris have issued an address to the boot-makers of the department of the Seine, calling on them to organize for joint action in consequence of the combination lately made among the masters.

ENGLAND.—The industrial situation is very critical and many trades are suffering a reduction in wages owing to the stringency of the times. The shipyards are idle and the distress in many of the large centres is on the increase.

BLUE NOSE BOYBOTTERS.

Boycotting has extended to Nova Scotia! And even there among the "Blue Noses" the mysteries of *the art persuasive* have been mastered. With the aid of the trades unions of Halifax, Typographical Union No. 130 of that city is at work to boycott the *Herald and Mail* office. Their reasons for so doing are stated thus:

"That no Printer is allowed to work in the office without first signing as agreement that he will renounce all connection with the Union.

We have waited nearly two years without taking any definite action in the matter, thinking we would eventually gain the office, but we find that the time has now arrived when some decisive means should be employed to bring this office under the jurisdiction of our Union.

There are several men in that office willing to join the Union, but by so doing they would be immediately discharged, and, business being dull at the present time, they are compelled to remain as they are, in order to procure a livelihood.

By Boycotting, we mean not only the said two papers, but all the Business Men who advertsie in them; we refuse to buy anything out of their establishment."

THE INNATE CUSSEDNESS OF CARPENTERS.

From the *Carpenter* we learn that that trade is overstocked with men in every city reported. In some, business is brisk, but more than enough men. In a great many places wages are low, for want of thorough organization. If a trade ever needed a great upheaval it is the Carpenters'. Why they are behind in organization is a mystery, unless it is that every mother's son of them expects to become a boss soon, and that the Union would hinder him in his aspirations. There is something wrong—what is it?—*John Swinton's Paper.*

PIECE WORK IN CARPENTRY.

If the Brotherhood of Carpenters is wise it will never tolerate piece work; in recent years past it proved to be a curse to the trade in this city. There is nothing calculated to reduce wages to a starvation point and retard progress in securing less hours of toil than that very same. Brothers, set your face against it!—*Balt. Labor Free Press.*

—Any local union without the secret work and traveling pass-word should notify the General Secretary.

—Printed notices of arrears for all local unions can be supplied by the General Secretary. These notices are an excellent means of bringing members to pay up their dues.

CHIPS AND SAWDUST.

—The circulars of Typographical Union No. 2, boycotting the Philadelphia Press and Calvin Wells, are being scattered by the thousands among the lodge rooms and union workmen.

—A general reduction of working hours for the wage-workers of America would do them more good, and the whole country more good than all the platforms that the political parties could adopt in a century.

The trouble existing between Typographical Union No. 1, of Indianapolis, and the Journal of that city, has been amicably adjusted. On the first of this month the rat foreman vacated, and Union men will man the office. Another instance of effective boycotting!

Herter Brothers, New York, cabinet-makers, were about to reduce their force on account of the dullness of business. The cabinet-makers employed there, immediately held a meeting, and resolved to arrange a reduction of the hours of labor so as to keep those employed who were about to be thrown idle. This good example ought to be adopted in every trade.

—Thirteen Italian miners made their escape from Snake Hollow recently, says a Cincinnati exchange, and came to this city, and were fed by the miners, instead of being killed or roughly handled, as the operators seem to fear. The miners attach no blame to foreign laborers, but to the operators who imported them.

—A gang of Italian laborers near Saratoga was recently cut down 10 cents a day. Instead of striking, they cut an inch off their shovel blades at night. The boss asked what it meant, and one of the men replied: "Not so much pay, not so much dirt lift; all right, job last the more long. Italian no fool like Irishmen; he no strike."

—The labor statistics of Illinois, Massachusetts, and other States show that wages paid laboring people are not sufficient to allow them to pay their rent and buy food. Families would starve or be driven out of their houses for rent they could not pay were it not for their income being increased by the pittances their children can earn.

—The next convention of the National Tailors'Union will be held on August 11, 1884, at Chicago. There is a movement on foot to build up the organization on a healthy basis.

—In 1866 the National Labor Union in the Baltimore session advocated in its platform the establishment of a National Bureau of Labor Statistics. After eighteen years of agitation the proposition has become a law on the statute books.

—Labor in the mills of Massachusetts is being more degraded every year. Fall River has 20,000 mill hands and only one small organization, and that is the mule spinners'.

—About forty years ago the first Typographical Union was formed, but it was not until 1869 that the present International Union was instituted.

—The trade report of the Amalgamated Carpenters for July shows trade to be very dull in Great Britain and Ireland, and the labor market overstocked in New Zealand and Australia. They have 412 branches and 24,116 members, of whom 706 are on unemployed benefit, 505 on sick benefit, and 111 on superannuation.

—The various trades unions of Omaha, Neb., are at work organizing a Trades Assembly and in this task Carpenters Union No. 58 is taking an active lead.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1884.

THE SONG OF THE WORKERS.

EDWARD WILLETT.

I sing the song of the workers, the men with the brawny arm,
Who give us our daily bread, and keep us from hunger's harm;
Who labor afar in the forest, who heaven the fields with toil,
Who take no heed of the sunshine, and mind not sweat or toil.

I sing the song of the workers, who harvest the golden grain,
And bind it, and thresh it, and sift it, nor care for the sting and stain;
Who load it in creaking wagons, and stoutly their oxen drive,
And bid them good-bye as they go, like the bees flying home to the hive.

I sing the song of the workers, the men who struggle and strain,
Who give us their muscle and nerve, as they guard the loaded train;
Who give us their sinew and brain, as they watch the prisoned steam,
And run the risk of their lives, as they pass the perilous stream.

I sing the song of the workers, the men who labor and strive,
Who handle for us the honey that comes to the human hive;
The patient and tireless worker, with muscles as tough as steel,
Who carry the heaviest burdens, and lift, and trundle, and wheel.

I sing the song of the workers, demanding for every one
His just and rightful due for all the work he has done;
For all the work of the workers, no matter whom or where,
To each of the grand result his honest, proportionate share.

OUR OMAHA UNION BOOMING.

The last meeting of the Carpenters' Union was a "boomer." They have now 225 members on their rolls and 19 applicants for membership. They have not been organized only a short time the organization being perfected in April—but they have been enabled to double their initiation fee, and yet the membership is rapidly increasing. They will soon not only be the largest but also the strongest union in Omaha if they keep up their present strides of progress. A Carpenters' Union is now organized at Council Bluffs, the Omaha Union having received the names of twenty carpenters of that city who are desirous of organizing. One boss over there says he will give money to assist the organization, saying that when the contractors know what they have to pay for labor, they can make a living. This sounds like business. A few years hence and every employer with any mental capacity whatever will be in favor of unionism.—*Omaha Independent.*

LABOR, RELIGION AND CAPITAL.

From a sermon by Dr. Carlos Martyn.

Grave political and social abuses exist here. Labor feels that it is heavily dealt with. Capital regards labor as the attempt of a beggar to ride; labor thinks that capital is a fraud and tyranny already on horseback. Labor says, "Get all you can"; capital says, "Keep all you can." When the Church forgets that its Founder was a carpenter, that its chief Apostle was a tentmaker, that its leading spirits in the Apostolic day were fishermen, that its adherents were the poor and miserable, it is time that society should spew capital out of its mouth. If the Church is to continue to exist it must deserve to exist, and it can only deserve to exist by nestling low down with the people and keeping in sympathy with every humane and generous movement.

—The use of Pinkerton's detectives in labor troubles is becoming quite common, and the swaggering bullies are generally armed to the teeth and brought into requisition to menace peaceable workmen and intimidate them into accepting their bosses terms. In the late strike of 4,000 coal miners in the Hocking Valley, Ohio, these armed ruffians were poured into Carbon Hill, Ohio, and after insulting and browbeating every one they were brought up with a round turn by being arrested for usurping the offices of public constables and were bound over for trial.

Proposed Changes in our Constitution and Local Rules.

New York, August 15, 1884.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF ALL LOCAL UNIONS.

Brothers:

By authority of the Fourth Annual Convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, held in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 5—9, 1884, I am authorized to submit to a general vote of the members of the local unions, the following amendments to, and alterations of, our present Constitution and Local Rules.

The number of votes for and against each proposition must be marked upon the margin of this circular opposite the section referred to. The votes should be carefully counted and recorded. No blanks nor unanimous votes can be counted; every member present in the meeting must vote, and the full number of votes for and against must be stated in the return to this circular. No member suspended or delinquent will be entitled to a vote. Unions in arrears for 3 months dues to the Brotherhood can not vote.

Each union receives 2 copies of this circular to be filled out. One copy to be kept on file in your union, and one to be sent to the General Secretary, P. J. Mc GUIRE, 184 William St., New York.

All returns must be made to this office on or before Oct. 1, 1884, as then the amendments, if adopted, are to go into effect. The result of the vote will be announced to the unions. Please have no delay in acting on this circular. Call a special meeting for the purpose and give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours fraternally,
P. J. McGUIRE, GEN'L SECRETARY.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

Note.—(All amendments appear in italics, and the Article and Section is stated.)

TITLE, POWERS, AND GOVERNMENT.

ART. 1, *Sec.* 3. To read:

The Brotherhood shall meet in convention *biennially* on the first Tuesday of the month of August at such place as may have been designated by the last preceding convention, *unless otherwise ordered by the general vote of the B., a two-thirds vote of all members voting to constitute a majority.*

ART. 1, *Sec.* To read:

No union shall be entitled to representation that is one month in arrears for its per capita tax, supplies *or dues.*

ART. 1, *Sec.* 9. To read:

A special Convention can be called by the E. B., provided the call has been endorsed by a *general vote; a two-thirds vote of all members voting to constitute a majority.*

OFFICERS AND HOW CHOSEN.

ART. 2, *Sec.* 1. To read:

The Officers of this Brotherhood shall consist of a General President, eight Vice Presidents, a General Secretary and a Treasurer who shall hold office for *two years, or until their successors are elected.*

ART. 2, *Sec.* 2. To read:

The G. P., the eight Vice Presidents, and the G. S., shall be elected by the convention. The Treasurer and the *E. B.* shall be elected by the L. U. or unions in that city, which is chosen by the convention as the headquarters of the *E. B.* for the following term.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 1. To read:

It shall be the duty of the G. P. to preside at all conventions of the B., and conduct the same according to parliamentary rules and in conformity with the Constitution. He shall have power, by consent of a majority of the E. B. to suspend any L. U. for any violation of the Constitution or laws of the B. He shall sign all charters, and upon being appealed to shall submit all grievances to the E. B. for their action. At the end of each *quarter* he shall submit to the *E. B.* an itemized account of all monies expended by him in behalf of the B., which shall be paid by the Treasurer upon an order from the *E. B.*

ART. 3, *Sec.* 4. Under head of Vice Presidents, to read "*quarterly* report" instead of "monthly."

ART. 3, *Sec.* 5. Under head of General Secretary, to read in eighth line, "*and pay over to the G. T. all monies, taking a receipt for the same.*" The words "over and above the sum of $75" being stricken out.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 6. To read:

The G. S. shall receive all applications for charters and grant the same when authorized by the *E. B.* He shall have charge of the seal of the B. and shall affix it to all official documents. He shall publish the official journal *on the first of each month* and shall send a *monthly* report to the L. U's of all monies received by him and the sources from which they have been paid, and also all other business appertaining to the L. U's. *He shall issue a monthly bulletin, giving state of trade, number of new initations, number of members, wages, hours of labor, amount in treasury, finances, etc.*

ART. 3, *Sec.* 7. To read:

The G. S. shall furnish all cards, constitutions and supplies upon application from the L. U's, subject to laws hereinafter provided, and shall perform such other duties provided in this Constitution. He shall *publish an* annual report of his work.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 9. To read:

The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all monies, property and security of the B., delivered to him by the G. S. He shall pay through the G. S. all warrants, regularly drawn on him, signed by the *Chairman of the E. B.*, and countersigned by the Secretary, as required by this Constitution, and none others. He shall submit to the *Biennial* Convention a complete statement of all receipts and disbursements during his term of office. He shall not hold in his possession more than $75, and all above that amount he shall deposit in some bank designated by the *E. B.* The Treasurer shall give a good and sufficient bond to the sum fixed by the E. B. for the faithful performance of his duties.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 10, be stricken out, and embodied as Sec. 3, Art. 4.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

ART. 4, *Sec.* 1. To read:

The E. B. shall be composed of five members, elected from the union or unions within a radius of ten miles of the city selected as headquarters, and such election shall be upon a joint ballot of these unions. Said E. B. shall elect its own chairman, and shall hold semi-monthly meetings regularly in which the G. S. and G. T. shall have the right to a voice, but no vote.

ART. 4. *Sec.* 3. To read:—(The old section to be stricken out.)

It shall be the duty of the *E. B.* to prepare the bonds for the Treasurer and Secretary and hold them in trust for the B. They shall audit the accounts of the officers and examine all bills, and shall perform such other duties as provided for in this Constitution.

In ART. 5, *Sec.* 2, to strike out "Vice Presidents" whenever it occurs and insert "*E. B.*"

ART. 7, *Sec.* 3. *Strike out clause beginning on 5th line:* "*Which shall be sent direct by mail to each member.*"

ART. 7, *Sec.* 5. To read:

All monies must be made payable by post office money order, bank check or draft to the G. T. The G. S. shall receive from the L. U. all post office orders, bank checks or drafts, and shall deliver the same to the G. T., taking his receipt in return.

LOCAL UNIONS.

In ART 8, *Sec.* 1, to insert *seven* instead of *nine* carpenters for a charter.

ART. 8, *Sec.* 2. To read:

"*More than one local union may be chartered in the same city by applying to the E. B., who shall notify the local union or unions already chartered and inquire whether there is any valid reason why such charter should not be granted. If the E. B. find there be sufficient reasons they should refuse to grant such charter. All local unions in the same city to be governed by similar rules of work and scale of wages.*

ART. 8, *Sec.* 4, was amended to read: "A public meeting of each union *should* be held, etc.

Sec. 7. To read: The fiscal quarters in the year shall be: Jan. 1, April 1, July 1, and Oct. 1.

Sec 9. To read: Each local union *should* be incorporated, etc.

Sec. 11. To read: That local By-Laws be submitted to the *E. B.*, etc.

MEMBERSHIP.

ART. 9, *Sec.* 1. To read:

Each and every member admitted to membership in this B. must be a journeyman *house* carpenter and joiner, of good moral character and sound health and competent to command the general average of wages.

ART. 9, *Sec.* 2. To read:

No person who has been expelled or suspended from any L. U. of this B., or who is in arrears to any L. U., shall be eligible to membership *in any other L. U., except by consent of his local union.*

ART. 9, *Sec.* 3. To read:

"Any member who becomes a contractor or employer *may* remain a member," etc.

ART. 9, *Sec.* 7. Erase first clause entirely.

ART. 10, *Sec.* 1. To read:

The G. S. shall issue traveling, withdrawal, and working cards. The working cards shall be issued *yearly.* He shall distribute them per order of Local Unions, etc.

STRIKES.

This article has been completely altered.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 1. To read:

Whenever a dispute arises between an employer or employers and members of a local union, the members shall lay the matter before the L. U., which shall appoint an arbitration committee to adjust the difficulty; then, if said committee can not settle the dispute, the matter shall be referred to the union. If a two-thirds vote by secret ballot of the members present at such meeting shall decide that the members be sustained, then they shall be authorized to strike, which strike shall take effect immediately whenever compliance with the demand is refused by the employers the following day.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 2. To read:

But should a general strike be contemplated by the union, then the C. S. shall be ordered to transmit at once by telegraph a statement of the case to the G. S., who shall call the E. B. immediately together to pass upon the case.

ART. 11. *Sec.* 3. To read:

The E. B. shall then have the power, if they deem it advisable, to declare a strike. The G. S. shall notify the L. U. in question within 24 *hours* whether the strike or lockout is sanctioned.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 4. To read:

Whenever it shall best subserve the interests of the union, to give the employers due notice of any demands that may entail upon them pecuniary loss, then such notice may be given a reasonable time beforehand.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 5. To read:

In no case shall any local union take any action on any strike until all members in good standing of such union be notified.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 6. To read:

Whenever a strike has been authorized by the E. B., and the duration of the strike has depleted the treasury of the local union, such union shall be authorized to issue an appeal to sister unions, sanctioned by the E. B., calling for donations from the local unions in their aid.

ART. 11, *Sections* 12 and 13 to remain as they are in the Constitution, and become Sections 7 and 8. All other clauses in Art. 11 to be stricken out.

FUNERAL BENEFITS.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 1. To read:

On the death of a member who has been admitted six months in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, his legal heirs or next of kin, shall receive the sum of $250 from the G. T. of the Brotherhood.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 2. To read:

Should a member die having no relative to conduct his funeral or claim his funeral benefit, the L. U. shall see him respectably interred. The President, Financial and Recording Secretaries and the Board of Trustees shall attend his funeral, the expenses to be deducted from his burial benefit and the assessment made accordingly.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 3. To read:

The widow of a deceased member, who is entitled to the benefits as specified in this Constitution, whose conduct is improper, shall not be allowed the funeral benefit, but the union shall see him properly interred, pay the expenses incurred for the same, the surplus to go to the children; and if no children to go to the widow at the discretion of the union.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 4. To read:

Any member whose injury or death is caused by his own improper conduct, or while on duty as a volunteer or militiaman, neither he nor any other person for him shall have any claim on the benefits of the B.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 5. To read:

Should a member in benefit under the provisions of this Article be lawfully married and his wife die, he shall be allowed the sum of $50 for funeral expenses, the same to be taken from his claim of $250. But if the member receiving the $50 on the death of his wife fails to keep himself in good standing in the Union, the remaining $200 will be considered forfeited at his death. In no case shall a member receive funeral benefit for more than one wife.

ART. 12, *Sec.* 6. To read:

On the death of the wife of a member entitled to benefit, an assessment of 2 cents shall be made upon each member and shall be collected as provided in Article 14. And upon the death of the member an assessment of only 8 cents shall then be made upon each member to pay the balance of $200 death benefit due on his account.

DISABILITY BENEFIT.

ART. 13, *Sec.* 1. To read:

Any member in good standing who becomes permanently disabled by accidental injuries, received at work in the trade of carpenter and joiner, which incapacitates him from again following the trade, shall be entitled to *$100 for six months' membership, and $250 for two years' membership*, and this shall relieve the B. from any further obligations to said member.

ART. 13, *Sec.* 2, to remain as at present.

COLLECTION AND DISBURSEMENT OF BENEFITS.

ART. 14, *Sec.* 1. To read:

Upon the death or disability of a member, when the union is notified by the G. S., each member shall pay an assessment into his local union, and the same shall be charged to him on the books as dues: On a death or disability benefit of $250—10 cents; on a disability benefit of $100 only 4 cents assessment shall be levied on a member, and on the death of a wife 2 cents shall be levied.

Sec. 2. Local unions must set aside the assessment for each member, and hold themselves in readiness to pay their quota upon the call of the G. S.

Sec. 3. Not more than $250 of this fund shall be placed at any time in the hands of the Treasurer of the B.

Sec. 4. Any union that fails to send its quota on any assessment to the G. S. within 30 days, after being notified by the G. S., shall be suspended from all benefits until the same is paid.

Sec. 5. A person to be entitled to benefit must be a member for six months and in good standing.

Sec. 6. Any member three months in arrears shall not be entitled to benefit.

Sec. 7. In all cases of death or disability the person applying for the money shall produce to the local union a physician's certificate where such death or disability took place, and if proved satisfactory, the E. B. shall be authorized to call upon the General Treasurer of the Brotherhood to pay the amount of benefit due, into the hands of the person entitled to receive it.

Sec. 8. All death or disability certificates must be sworn to before a notary public or commissioner, and attested by the President of the local union and Financial Secretary. They shall also make affidavit before a notary public or commissioner as to the correctness of the certificate, and that the deceased or disabled member whose claim they are about presenting has complied with the law and was in good standing on the books at the time of the decease or disability.

Sec. 9. When a death occurs, it shall be the duty of the L. U., of which the deceased was a member, to forward to the G. S. a certified report and affidavits of the same signed by the President, F. S., and five other members in good standing of the L. U. Said certified report shall be accompanied by a duplicate burial certificate of the deceased.

General Laws.

All the General Laws were adopted as they now are with exception of Section 9, which is amended to read: "The C. S. of each L. U. shall, *within the last week of each month*," etc.

Local Rules.

ART. 1, *Sec.* 3. To read:

Every candidate proposed for membership must be waited upon by a special committee of three, which *may* report at the *same* meeting, etc.

ART. 1, *Sec.* 6. In regard to apprentices be stricken out.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 2, the last three lines be stricken out.

ART. 3, *Sec.* 3. In regard to Resistance Fund be stricken out entirely.

ART. 4, *Sec.* 1. The last clause on page 18 to be stricken out. (In regard to casting objection, etc.)

ART. 5, *Secs* 1 and 2 to be stricken out and Sec. 7 to be inserted as Sec. 1 and the balance of the sections to follow in proper order.

ART. 7. *Sec.* 1. Add:

It may be optional with the local unions to combine the offices of Cor. Sec. and Fin. Sec., if they deem it necessary.

ART. 7, *Sec.* 3. To read:

All nominations of officers shall be opened and closed on the last meeting night in June and December, *but may be re-opened again on the night of election if deemed necessary*, and no member shall be nominated for any office unless he is present on the night of nomination; nor shall he be eligible to any office unless he has been a member three months, and is in good standing.

ART. 7, *Sec.* 5, in last line amend to read: "All officers *to* be installed," etc.

ART. 11, *Sec.* 2, to be stricken out.

ART. 13 of Local Rules be inserted as amended in General Constitution.

ART. 14, *Sec.* 4. To read:

The Constitution can be amended, or altered only at the regular sessions of the convention by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present, and all such amendments or alterations must be submitted to local unions for their approval or rejection, within two months after said convention; a two-thirds vote of the members present of the local unions shall be necessary to sustain such amendments or alterations.

RULES OF ORDER.

On page 29 the order of business No. 9, in regard to finance, be made No. 6, and that No. 6 be made No. 9.

Sec. 10 was amended to read: "Any member may call for a division of a question when the sense will admit thereof."

The following additions were also made:

"Every member present shall vote on all questions before the union, unless personally interested or excused by the union."

"When a blank is to be filled, the question shall be taken first upon the highest sum or number, or the longest or latest time."

"No subject of a political, religious or personal nature shall at any time be admitted."

Sec. 20 was amended to read: "No member shall speak more than once on the same question until all the members wishing to speak shall have had an opportunity so to do; nor shall any member interrupt another while speaking, except to raise a point of order.

Sec. 12 was amended to place a motion to adjourn first instead of sixth.

WHERE THE MORAL CHANGE MUST COME FROM.

Now the question comes how is the moral atmosphere to be cleared? Where are we to look for the growth of a public opinion strong and honest enough to encourage true morality without fostering hypocrisy? Where is the power to cope with the growing depravity against which religion and culture are ineffective?

Those who hold with Robert Owen that the surest way to do away with crime is to attack its causes and remove its temptations, will readily find an answer. To save the well-to-do and „respectable" classes, and the society they misgovern from the collapse threatened by their own corruption, the conditions under which those classes are educated in youth and maintained through life must be radically altered. It is the cruel irony of their fate that they themselves are totally incapable of making the changes in their material condition which are necessary for the continuance of their existence. It is from below that the change must come. The growing discontent of the poor leads them to revolt against the over-work and the over-crowding which degrade them. But they can only get more leisure and more room by diminishing the excessive ease and luxury of the idle classes, which is the sole reason why peers are on an average less moral than plumbers. Every hour taken off the labor day of the working-classes means that the idle will have to forego the amount of material wealth that hour's work would have produced, or, if they will not forego it, they will have to create it by their own labor. In either case the idle classes will have to satisfy one of the two conditions of happiness and health, either they will be reduced to greater simplicity of living or will be brought into contact with the real facts of life by having to provide for their own wants.

Thus the workers by their efforts to free themselves from grinding, monotonous toil must necessarily deprive the idle of the leisure which is not rest, and the luxury which is not pleasure. In emancipating themselves from degradation they will force the rich into the ranks of the workers, at the same time that they give to all workers the possibility of a happy, wholesome life.

H. H. CHAMPION in London Justice

THE TENDENCY OF THINGS.

The whole tendency of our modern system of production is to reduce wages, to increase the dependence of the workers, to destroy his dignity as a man, his liberty as a citizen, and to increase from year to year his degradation. Can any mere political change alter this state of things? No! Will the mere possession of the vote alter the relations of employer and employed? Certainly not! Will the extension of the franchise add to the independence of the workers? Will it add to their dignity as men? Will it give them the moral courage requisite to strike down the usurpations on which our present political system rests? to uproot the tyranny of capital, to free England from those social sores which are at once her weakness and her disgrace, and raise her to the rank of a nation, and themselves to the dignity of free men? No! it will do none of these things; it will leave the worker still the worker; it will leave the slave still the slave; but it will label him as a British citizen, it will gild the chains around him, fill his bosom with imaginary power, and leave him in the glory of his degradation.

Yes, fellow working men and women, the chains which hold you in bondage are not so much political as social and economical. It is only by a social as well as a political uprising that you can ever accomplish your emancipation. The Revolution, to be successful, must embrace the whole civilized world, must embrace all the institutions of society, and must raise the people higher and ever higher in all that constitutes the true greatness of mankind.—*J. Sketchley in London Justice.*

THE CINCINNATI VICTORY.

CINCINNATI, July 21.—After a seven months' fight against a reduction of twenty-five per cent the stove molders of Cincinnati are victorious. The strike has been general in this city and throughout the western country. The molders were informed last December that when the foundries started up it would be at the reduction. A meeting of Molders' Unions Nos. 3 and 4 was immediately called and a strike ordered against the reduction, as the old prices were not sufficient to more than support the families of the men in a moderate way. Since the 13th of last December the molders have been out of work and up to last Saturday not a single man has deserted their ranks and gone to "scabbing". There are about five hundred union molders in Cincinnati, and all have shown their determination to stick the strike out if it took a year or more.

Last Friday afternoon the managers of the Chamberlain stove works called the old shop committee in, and informed them that they would take the men back at the scale of prices of last year, and that work would commence immediately. Now, as this foundry has given in all the others will be compelled to follow the example, as it is well known that the trade begins in July and the foundries either have to supply their customers with stoves or lose the trade, and as the work could not be made elsewhere and shipped to them, the molders were confident in their ultimate victory.

Hamilton, Canada.

Trade is very dull. Tradesmen are going to harvest for want of employment at their trades. Dundas is 5 miles from Hamilton, and there the Stove Foundry is running a few days a week; the Stocking factory the same, and the Cotton factory is closed for an indefinite time; the Axe factory for all summer. Hamilton is no better; the Ontario Cotton Mill Co. is running 4 days a week with as few hands as possible. There are no large jobs in the city and very few small ones so that the building trade is duller than for years. The Grand Trunk shops have started up on 45 hours per week after a 9 days' rest for the employes. Mr. Ackland was fined $40 for breach of building-law, because he was foreman, and the employer allowed to go free. Mr. J. Mercer, who is an employer of scabs, was sued under the same law, but his case was allowed to stand. That is the kind of justice in Canada, and yet the wage workers will not organize to help themselves and their fellow-workman.

Syracuse, N. Y.

Union No. 69 of this city has been duly organized by the visit of General Secretary McGuire, here on July 24th. His address interested us all and gave us a thorough insight in the workings of the Brotherhood. Mr. J. G. Heilganz of the Cigar Makers' Union has rendered us great service. Our officers are: Pres., James Southerton; Vice Pres., Geo. M. McClure; Fin. Sec., John Weckerle; Rec. Sec., E. C. Rhinehardt; Treasurer, John A. Ogle; Cor. Sec., G. M. McClure; Warden, J. G. Snyder.

I have been around among the large buildings in progress in this city and find that the average wages paid is from $1.75 to $2.50 per day; there is not much work on big jobs in town. The work is mostly on small houses and work is dull.—The average rent here for any kind of a house is from $16 to $25 per month. Everything is dear except labor, and it costs a man all he makes to live. The trouble in this city is we have got to many incompetent men, who will work for nothing and, of course, that throws a good man out of a job.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.

Work is not very bright in this city. There are more men than work and we advise all workmen to stay away from here, as all this country is completely overrun.

Union No. 64 is coming to the front in a grand manner. Our first move here was in regard to the letting of the largest contract in the city to Howard and Hallock of Denver, Col. We could not do much, not being full organized, until the contract was let, but by the help of the other unions here we have deprived that firm of getting any more work here, and now it is impossible for any one not a resident to get a contract in this city.

The Labor men here got the candidate for Judge defeated and one appointed that is not a tool of the monopolists. The next move was the Mercantile Clerks formed an association to have all stores close at 7 P.M., Saturday excepted, and now it is the rule. In conclusion let me say we have carried our point everytime and the next delegate to Congress from this Territory will be a Labor man. But with all this the labor market here is overcrowded and we advise no one to come to Cheyenne to get work, for we have enough of men and to spare.

Omaha, Neb.

Trade is moderate in the building line, but the R. R. shops are discharging men and in consequence increased the number depending on the building trade. There are more men now than is really necessary for our trade. Wages are about the same with a tendency to lower in the Car shops, which has a bad effect on the city. Two dollars per day are being paid to inferior men and three dollars to good men, 10 hours per day. Coal and rent are very high, other articles, that are brought here, have high freight rates, which the consumer of course has to pay. We are now having every alternate night for initiation and the night between for business; only the 5th monthly night, when it comes, is to be left for debate and open to the other unions in the city. We elected five trustees last meeting, the names as follows: John Henry, C. W. Green, 3 years; Charles Parker, J. M. Hoey, 2 years; George Gascoigne, 1 year.

THE CARPENTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

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OF AMERICA.

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P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary,
184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1884.

—The proposed amendments to our Constitution and Local Rules have been sent out to the local unions for a general vote. For the information of all the members we print them on Pages 2 and 3 of this journal. Take action upon them promptly and don't wait until the last moment or else your vote may come in too late. Give us the exact vote **For** and **Against.**

—Our Brotherhood is based upon the principle of popular sovereignity — the will of the members to be the governing law—hence the convention has submitted all amendments to our laws to a general vote of the members. None can now complain that they have not got a voice in the making of our laws.

—We only print a brief synopsis of the proceedings of the convention because the full report is in the printers hands and will appear in pamphlet form this coming week. Price 5 cents.

—Our Los Angeles correspondent is unusuable brilliant this month.

A RESUME OF THE CONVENTION.

The Fourth Annual Convention of our Brotherhood has passed into the history of the labor movement !

All the older unions were represented, and in their legislation the delegates ever kept in view the interests of the whole craft in all sections of the country—the unrepresented in particular.

A larger attendance might have been secured at the expense of the treasuries of many local unions, but it was regarded as the wiser course to husband their means.

Each union represented sent its most experienced men, and the delegates were in the main men of mature years and ripe minds. For general ability, sound judgment, foresight and parliamentary skill, the convention has rarely been equalled by any convention of workingmen. The utmost liberality pervaded the hearts of the delegates, and with courtesy and dignity in their relations to each other, never for a moment was the harmony of the body disturbed. No time was spent in debating trifling points of order or parliamentary law. A higher purpose animated the Convention.

Each delegate seemed animated with the sole desire to understand the wants of the other; no hasty, reckless decisions were arrived at. Every act was done deliberately and cautiously with a view to perfect the laws and extending the power of the organization. Hence we may well be proud of our Convention.

The work will speak for itself: It has instituted many very necessary reforms and made our laws far more efficient, and repealed some that were in conflict with others, and again some that were unnecessary.

1.—It has done away with annual conventions, which are costly and useless, and has provided for a convention once every two years. Special conventions can be called whenever necessary.

2.—It has located the Executive Board in one city; for the ensuing term to be in Cleveland, O., and to be elected by that union. Thus the E. B. will exercise direct supervision over the work of the General Secretary, and pass upon all appeals more promptly, and do its work more effectively than if scattered in different cities. This is self-evident.

3.—It has provided that more than one local union can be chartered in one city, wherever conditions of language, color or distance require.

4.—It has simplified our strike laws and done away with the Resistance Fund, placing small strikes more directly under the control of the unions and provides that every dollar of surplus funds is available in case of any general trouble.

5.—It has reconstructed our beneficiary features; the $250 death benefit is retained; the disability benefit is increased to $250 for two years' membership, and a benefit of $50 on a wife's death is adopted. The laws for the collection and disbursement of these benefits have been thoroughly revised and are in very good shape.

6.—The principle of a general vote of the members on all laws is recognized, and is put into effect by submitting all these changes to the unions.

That the convention has done its work faithfully and carefully, there is no doubt, and a careful perusal of the proceedings in pamphlet form will prove it beyond peradventure. Let us trust that the work will meet with the hearty endorsement of the local unions.

After the adoption of these amendments we should put all our energies to the task of strengthening our local unions and pushing forward the growth of our Brotherhood.

With unity and harmony, zeal and enthusiasm in our ranks, we will in a very few years redeem our trade from the degradation into which it is sinking, and uplift it to a high and honored position among the useful crafts of the world.

WHOLESOME TRUTHS.

The Sociologic Society of New York was organized in 1882 and in a pamphlet sets forth the following principles:

That the unity of mankind manifests itself in the fact that whatever permanently impairs the well-being of one part of the social state impairs the well-being of the whole.

That all wealth is accumulated labor, and labor a physical, social and moral necessity. That whenever wealth is monopolized by one part of mankind, and no equivalent in labor is rendered by its possessor, and labor is restricted to another part without a just participation in its products, then disturbance of all the functions of the social organism must ensue.

That the sociologic need is to bring capital and labor into harmonious relations by a more complete interchange of their forces, so that labor will not bear too heavily on one part of mankind, leaving no room for mental and moral development; and wealth will not be restricted to a few, and thus undermine, weaken and destroy social institutions.

That only through co-operation can there be an equitable distribution of the proceeds of labor, and only by such equitable distribution can the evils of social life be remedied and the race raised to a higher level.

That co-operation is the next stage of social development.

That social development is contingent upon individual development; individual development is through intellectual and moral activity, and these in turn rest upon a physical basis, which demands, in order that life shall be properly sustained, a just compensation for labor.

AN ABLE SHORT HOUR ARGUMENT.

Capital and Labor have mutual relations. Neither one can possibly do without the other, and do business, then why this everlasting conflict between the two? It comes, I apprehend partly from ignorance and partly from selfishness.

Capital is unscrupolous and grinding. Interest works day and night and makes no pretension even to keeping the Sabbath. On the other hand labor is in a great measure uneducated, and consequently unreasonable. Labor says give us eight hours per day and ten hours pay, or at least has been doing so for many years. It is gratifying indeed to see a change gradually taking place. On the other hand, capital demands as many hours work per day, and as little for it as the circumstances of the case will admit of. Either proposition is equally unreasonable and fatal to both.

What then is to be done, since we can not agree? There is where we both make the mistake. We can agree, and what is more we must agree, if we ever hope to improve our condition. And why not agree, since our interests are mutual?

It is plain enough to any intelligent, thinking man that what is for the interest of one, is for the good of the other, since we can not do without each other. Right here we will consider for a moment the advantages and disadvantages of a long and a short day's labor, and the reason why the hours of labor should be gradually reduced, and that too without any loss or detriment to either party.

The stone cutter works eight hours per day, why not work ten? Because there is no need of it. There being an abundant labor supply in the country to do all of the work of the country in eight hours, or even less, why then work ten hours?

But does the stone cutter get as much pay for eight hours as he would if he worked ten? Yes, more, because shortening the hours creates a demand for more help, consequently wages go up as the day is shortened.

The difficulty is in getting the time established.

Let the laborer learn to be wise, and get the time first, no matter about the wages, supply and demand will regulate the wages, and must do so, with a long or short day, alike. Another reason why the stone cutters work short days and get good pay is because they are well organized. We can not place too high a value on organization. We must still agitate, organize and reason. And what that will not do we may safely leave undone.

The school teachers work six hours a day; why not work ten? There is no need of it. It would be detrimental to both teacher and pupil to do so, and detrimental in more ways than one.

The Banker keeps his place of business open from nine or ten o'clock A. M. till three o'clock P. M., and if his business can all be transacted easily in that time what earthly use would there be in his worrying himself with nine or ten hours hard work every day? I know every sensible men will say there would be none.

Well my friends the same rule will apply to all branches of business, and that too to the advantage of all parties concerned, the carpenter as will as the stone cutter, and the stone cutter as well as the banker, and the capitalist and contractor as well as the wage worker. And in this age of improvement and invention the only way to avoid starving the many and fattening a few, is to reduce the hours of labor.

Labor saving machinery is being introduced so rapidly and surely, it alone, if nothing else is causing a just demand for a shorter day. And the capitalists must concede that point, and right here both parties must make concessions. Mechanics must not expect to come down to the bankers hours from ten hours, to six hours per day, but come from ten hours to nine, and then in due time from nine down to eight, and so let the world see that we have stood in our own light long enough, and have finally determined to be sensible. We must also seek to avoid strikes as much as possible; for neither party can ever afford a strike, if it can reasonably be avoided, as they generally can by arbitration, if not by conference and mutual concessions, &c. &c. And yet strikes have their advantages, and perhaps must be resorted to some times, where matters can not be adjusted without. But that should be the exception and not the rule, for strikes are expensive, and neither party can afford them.

But when a strike does become necessary, the striking party should be firm and united, and strike hard.

Now we will consider briefly the advantage of a short day to the capitalist and the contractor. We have shown that the tendency is up, and not down to the wage worker, when the change is thoroughly established; and it requires no argument to show that anything that tends to raise wages, always raises contracts accordingly, if not proportionally more. Wages invariably being the last thing to raise, and then not till an overabundance of business, or a scarcity of labor forces that measure. This we all know too well. But there are other advantages to the capitalist as well as an advance in prices and profits, one only of which I will here take time to note, and that one is of no small importance. I speak of the difference of time for rest or recreation, or mental improvement, or whatever he may wish to turn his attention to, other than hard labor. And it will apply equally to employer and employes. Probably no people on earth are wearing themselves out as rapidly with hard labor as we are here in America, and especially here on the Pacific Coast. It is all hurry, worry, and more hurry, and more worry, from early manhood to the grave.

And the road is not a very long one with most of us. Just as if we would not die soon enough if we were a little more reasonable, and a good deal more sensible, and lived in a more natural way.

It will readily be seen that if the banker keeps his place of business open but six hours a day, that he will have the balance of the day to devote to his family, or to read, and rest, and think, and look around and enjoy himself. Yes and congratulate himself on his own wisdom or luck, that he is a banker and not a mechanic, and then wonder why we do not go and do likewise, when we might just as well, if we were properly organized and equally wise. For he will say to himself (if he will not to us mechanics) that all of the work done in America might just as well be done in eight hours per day (or less) as by working ten or twelve hours; and thus provide employment for the idle (who are always a large class among us) and at the same time insure better prices and better profits all around; and at the same time foster and encourage the onward march, and age of improvement in which we live.

In Australia eight hours is a days work among all branches of mechanics and labor, not only in law and theory, but also in practice, and the change from ten hours to eight did dot work any harm to any one, but a great benefit to all concerned, as is now demonstrated by years of experience. Then why not reduce the hours of labor in America and all other countries, since there is not work to keep all employed for even that time.

But we must be reasonable, and patient and fearless, and hopeful, and firm, and above all, charitable, just, and determined.

We must keep up our organizations, and if we can not be there always in person, we must be there in spirit, and if we can not wield the hammer and saw, let us wield the pen if we can do that, and so let the world know that we live, and let the Brotherhood know that we are with them. There is much more that might be said with profit, but I belive this letter is sufficiently long, so I will not tire your potience, but will be pleased at all times to do what I can for the good of the world and the cause of labor.

S. V. R. TUTHILL,
Berkeley, California.
Late of Oakland and a member of Oakland Union No. 36.

—President Arthur has shown a very narrow and petty spirit in withholding the commission from John Jarrett as U. S. Labor Commissioner. Jarret was appointed by President Arthur and the appointment was confirmed by the Senate and to then be influenced by personal and political considerations against granting the commission, is, to say the least, not very statisman-like.

—A general reduction of 10 to 15 per cent in the wages of the cotton operatives of New England has been made, and in the Wamsutta Mills, New Bedford, Mass., a spirited resistance is being offered, but want of organization will defeat them as it did in 1876, when they were out over 2 months. At present the Wamsutta corporation is driving the help out of the tenements on to the streets. The company is willing to yeild if the strikers are willing to take more looms which means the discharge of several hands now at work.

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FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION.

SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America assembled in Workmen's Hall, Walnut Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 5, 1884, at 11 A.M., and adjourned on Aug 9, 6 P.M., after five continuous days session.

General President, J. P. McGinley, of Chicago, Ill., assumed the chair, and General Secretary, P. J. McGuire, of New York, officiated as Secretary.

Owing to distance and a desire to economize, a majority of the unions were not represented. The following delegates were present:—Washington, D. C.: John T. Suter, Jos. F. Billingsley.—Cincinnati, O.: Gus. Brethauer, Henry Behrens.—Philadelphia, Pa.: James Dey, Richard J. Ross.—Cleveland, O.; D. F. Sleeper.—Indianapolis, Ind.: R. O. P. Thurber.—Chicago, Ill.: L. J. Boyer, William Henderson, Chris. Printen.—Toledo, O.: L. J. Thompson, T. J. Stillwell.—Baltimore, Md.: Henry Hall.—Trenton, N. J.: Leonard Brown.—Boston, Mass.: W. J. Shields. Hartford, Conn.: Geo. Lavereck.—Charleston, S. C.: L. E. Rames.—Covington, Ky.: W. H. Pope.—Omaha, Neb.: W. J. Reeves.—Englewood, Ill.: L. D. Schlipp.—Grand Rapids, Mich.: J. M. Hall.—A total of twenty-two delegates and sixteen unions represented.

The Pacific coast it was expected would be represented, but at the last moment the delegate resigned. Letters of regret at not being represented were read from many unions, who sent their instructions.

After the appointment of the usual committees, congratulatory letters were read from various cities and a telegram of fraternal greeting was sent to the Iron and Steel Workers Convention then in session in Pittsburgh, Pa., which was responded to by them the following day.

The general officers submitted their reports, that of the General Secretary being of particular interest; it will be found in the pamphlet report soon to be issued.

Union No. 2 of Cincinnati did its utmost to entertain the delegates and provided a reception or meeting of some kind each night. But as all the delegates were busily engaged on committee work, it was generally a late hour before they availed themselves of the hospitalities extended. The Committee on Constitution, consisting of Bros. Suter, Sleeper, Boyer, Dey, Shields and Thompson labored steadily and spent nearly two days in revising and amending our laws. And the task was no child's play either. But so thorough was their work that it met with only very few alterations in the Convention, even after the ordeal of thorough discussion, section by section. The changes and alterations made are published in this issue, and we hope they will meet with the approval of the members.

The question of equalization of funds, universal dues and benefits was very fully discussed in committee and among the delegates *pro* and *con*. But all agreed that for the present our Brotherhood was too young to adopt the system and that the better way would be to agitate the question more thoroughly the coming two years. No reduction was made in the death benefit, but the law was made more efficient. That and other very necessary reforms were adopted.

Bro. F. E. Rames, delegate from Charleston, S. C., was insulted in a coffee house one night on account of color, whereupon the Convention expressed its indignation in a strong and forcible resolution, thus demonstrating that the labor movement has no color lines of distinction. That the days of the "Bloody Shirt" are not to be resurrected by our men is amply evidenced by the fact that the resolution was championed by an Ex-Confederate soldier, and was adopted unanimously.

The subject of piece work was very thoroughfully discussed, and while some delegates were instructed to make its enforcement optional with the local unions, the prevailing sentiment was overwhelmingly in favor of leaving the law as it is and to grant no special privileges to any union.

The strike laws and the beneficial features of our constitution were given very lengthy and careful consideration and were properly amended. The principle of a general vote on all laws was recognized and provided for.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing term: General President, Jos. F. Billingsley, Washington, D. C.; General Secretary, P. J. McGuire, New York; Vice Presidents, R. Stephens, Oakland, Cal., W. J. Shields, Boston, Mass., Gus. Brethauer, Cincinnati, O., L. E. Rames, Charleston, S. C., Omaha, Neb., Alex. Edgar, Toronto, Can., W. F. Eberhardt, Philadelphia, Pa.

Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the headquarters, and Washington, D. C., as the place for holding the next convention in 1886.

PRESS COMMENT.

In speaking of our convention editorially, the Cincinnati *Hotel Journal* says: The Carpenters' Convention took action yesterday on the insult offered one of their delegates, T. E. Rames, (colored) Charleston, S. C. at the People's Restaurant the evening before. A party of the delegates went into this restaurant to get refreshments, and the head waiter refused to allow Mr. Rames to be waited upon, whereupon the party left the lunch-room and went into the San Francisco bakery and restaurant an were cleverly waited upon. The insult was revenged by the convention passing the following resolution:

"In this indignity offered one of our delegates the members of this convention recognize a gross an ignorant insult to our body, worthy of the severest rebuke at our hands; and we call upon all citizens and working people of this city, to do all in their power to withdraw patronage from the People's Restaurant, and hold it up to public execration."

The motion to adopt this resolution was made by another Southern delegate-an ex-Confederate soldier.

The convention also took action on President Arthur's refusing to commission Mr. Jarrett as Secretary of the National Bureau of Labor Statistics, to which office he appointed him some time ago. The convention passed a resolution bitterly condemning the President's action in the matter of withholding the commission after making the appointment. The *Evening Post* committed a grave mistake in saying the carpenters indorsed the President's action in withholding Jarrett's commission. The convention also passed resolutions indorsing the Printer's Unions in New York and elsewhere in their boycott of the New York *Tribune*, and promised to use all the means in their power to withdraw its patronage and to destroy its political influence and support.

It looks very much to a man up a tree as if the workingmen of this country will not be ignored in what they consider their just rights, and are bound to be recognized whether the "Boss" will have it that way or not.

—The Cincinnati *Times Star* in its report of our convention says: The Convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters which began this morning in Arbeiter Hall, is different from the generality of such assemblies, as the sessions are of a private and secret nature and the reporters are fired when the actual business commences. They have their pass words, grips, signs of recognition and signs of courtesies, and every body is a "brother." The object of the present Convention is to so revise and change the constitution and by-laws of the association as to meet the exigencies of the situation, and the demands of the order in all parts of the United States and its business relations abroad. The object of the association is benevolent as well as protective, but in no way has any connection with politics or religion. Unions are being organized in all parts of the United States, Canada and British Columbia. A colored union was recently organized with a membership of 300, and another union was recently organized in Pensacola, Florida, with a large membership, which serves to show the interest manifested by the carpenters in all parts of the country, and among the colored race as well as the whites.

Houston, Texas.

We lost one of our most promising members, a young man of good, moral, and sober character, and a worker. He was one of the Trustees, and his name Charles Johnson. We have hung up the badge of mourning for 30 days in his memory.—We have a few "snide" contractors, one the name of Long and one named Kennedy, and they are not mechanics, but take contracts and advertise in St. Louis and Chicago for men when at present Houston is overcrowded. We want every one to take notice of this, as all such advertisements are false. We have some of their victims in our union who were brought here under false representation of things. When they got here they found just as good mechanics as they left and found our wages only average $2.50 per day and our living 20 per cent. and tools 30 per cent. higher than in the North. So they do not better themselves by coming here. If those false inducements can be stopped up North and stop the immigration of carpenters we may succeed in getting better wages.

San Rafael, Cal.

At the regular meeting of this Union No. 35 the following officers were duly elected and installed for the ensuing term: Pres., E. N. Kellogg; Vice Pres., J. R. Davenport; Rec. Sec., J. T. McLean; Cor. and Fin. Sec., R. C. Sands, re-elected; Treas., C. V. Donnell, re-elected; Conductor, J. E. Gray, re-elected; Warden, Otto Kohler; Trustees, E. N. Kellogg, Tim. Donehen, D. C. Southwick.

Trade slack; wages still hold firm. We hope soon to have better prospects.

New Tacoma, Wash. Ter.

New Tacoma Union No. 63 is in as good a condition as can be expected considering the manner in which business is depressed.

The trade now amounts to nothing here, nor has it amounted to anything the past five months. We all feel hopeful of course that times will eventually be better, but to hope is only human nature, there is nothing solid about it. Wages amount to nothing here. The union being composed of the cream of the mechanics have tried to maintain a standard of wages but can do but little in that line from the fact that there are, perhaps, 225 carpenters in the place and work enough at present for about forty, and the majority of them working for $2 and $2.50 per day, and some of them are good mechanics, but as a matter of course not many of them are who are wotking for the low wages. Every branch of industry is about as far below par as the carpenters'. The country being filled up at least ten years ahead of its time, owing to it being boomed up by unscrupulous news-papers and town site schemers. A few months ago the reaction set in and we all hope it has got to bottom, but it will take Washington Territory several years to get over the backset she has got this year.

San Francisco, Cal.

Union No. 22 held her semi-annual election of officers on the eve of July 11th, 1884, with the following result: Pres., T. C. Rowe, re-elected; Vice Pres., J. M. Williston; Rec. Sec., Jno J. Tierney; Fin. Sec., A. T. Pennebsky, re-elected; Cor. Sec., J. D. Campbell, re-elected; Treas., Gust. J. Borle, re-elected: Conductor, James J. Walsh, re-elected; Warden, John Flynn; Trustee, J. S. W. Saunders; and Edward Oliver was elected Trustee to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of one of our trustees. The election brought out a large attendance, and the contest for officers was very close, and never was seen so much interest shown in the election as there was displayed on this occasion. At our last regular meeting held on the 18th inst. Bro. W. H. Preble, resigned as delegate to the convention, after which a motion rescinding all action previously taken toward sending a delegate to the convention, was carried, so we regret Union No. 22 cannot be represented at Cincinnati. Times fair; lots of men out of employment; wages $3 to $3.50, inferior men get $2.50 to $3. Bricklayers get $5, Painters $3.50, Plasterers $4 to $5, Hod Carriers $3; Cost of Living away up.

Our trade is in a fine condition at present with good prospects ahead, but we have one hard thing to contend against the daily papers keep the outsiders posted as regards all trades and all the hammer and saw men in the country flock here and work for anything they can get, and thereby take a good man's place. There are so many of them that it is almost impossible to fight against them, although we are gaining strength at a very good pace. We have at present over 650 members in good standing, and most of them good workers for the cause.

Los Angeles, Cal.

We have initiated and drawn into the fold of the Brotherhood 67 additional members for July. We meet weekly, our dues are 50 cents per month. Initiation fee has been one dollar, but will be $2.50 after Aug. 1st, We shall commence to hold public meetings next month. We salute the Brothers, assembled in Convention, from which we are precluded from attending this year, and we place our utmost reliance on their wisdom and intellect, and desire to express our gratitude and thanks to the officers of the Brotherhood for their devotion and sacrifice in the interest of their fellow-workmen and particularly to Bro. P. J. McGuire for his efficient services as G. S. and editor of the CARPENTER. In recognition of the rights of labor we have voted salaries for our Rec. and Fin. Secretaries, and feeling in a very liberal mood, we donated $25 to Chicago Union No. 21.

Bro. Jas. McIntyre met with a very tragic death and report of the examination of the culprits will be sent you to publish. The people were greatly excited over the matter and with a determined leader there would have been a lynching. The Union was holding a session that night to arrange for the funeral, and the crowd awaited their coming till midnight under the impression that they were concocting plans of vengeance.

I would urge a recommendation from the Brotherhood of the formation of building trades, leagues, trades assemblies, etc. The securing of large halls, where possible, for public gatherings, and to set aside as a damage and a curse all issues that tend to hamper and balk progress in the main issue of life, *i.e.*, "to secure the fruits of our toil, and compel able-bodied loafers and robbers to dig their own potatoes."

We work in harmony with the K. of L's here. First there was a lame attempt to swallow us, then an attempt as dog to waggle us as the tail, but the leverage being insufficient, the motion has been reversed and the angels of peace hover over our domiciles and our sky is all serene. As the Mexicans are wrapped up in their padres, tamales, and Sonora beer, the Chinamen in their frigid exclusiveness of barbarians, however much we may feel for the chains that bind them to the wheel of Fortune, and theorise on anti-monopoly, we are after all practically monopolists from the standpoint of self-preservation. We are drawing a full hand, and the flush of a coming victory is our reward for a square deal.

Cottages, Or Hints on Economical Building, Published by W. T. Comstock, 6 Astor Place, New York, Price One Dollar. The work contains 24 plates of medium and low cost houses, contributed by different New York Architects, together with descriptions and details, giving practical suggestions for Cottage building. The work is very useful in many respects.

MEETING OF FELLOW-WORKMEN.

[Remodeled from an old song, specially for the CARPENTER, by *Karl Reuter.*]

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in truth and love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.

In Union hope revives
Our courage by the way;
While each in expectation lives,
And longs to see the day.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,
From wrong we shall be free;
May perfect love and friendship reign,
And Justice, Freedom be!

Pittsburgh, Pa.

DEAR LABOR THE SAFEST.

Last month we published some extracts from a recent speech in Congress of the Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, on Tariff. To demonstrate that we are nonpartisan, this month we publish a few citations from Congressman W. D. Kelly's speech on Imported Foreign Labor:

The speech of Congressman W. D. Kelly on the importation of labor under contract contains many gems of sentiment well worthy of reproduction. It is hardly necessary to state that Mr. Kelly is the oldest member in point of service in the Federal House of Representatives and the consistent champion, for over a quarter of a century, of home industries. Said Mr. Kelly in the beginning af his speech on the Foran bill:

I have, Mr. Speaker, heard the word socialism whispered around me, and as loudly on the other side of the House when I went over to hear more clearly what the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Foran] was saying. Sir, when the law-makers of the United States—national, State and municipal—shall fail to regard and provide for the social well-being of the laboring classes, there will be an end to enlightened republican institutions, and instead of property being made safe by the sympathies of intelligent and aspiring laborers dwelling around the capitalists and property owners, you will, by the importation of cheap labor in the persons of the worst classes of the least enlightened States of Europe, convert every industrial centre into a nest of vipers and ferocious wild beasts. There is no law of nature that will excluded all the horrors which characterized the outbreak of 1793 and the French Revolution from any part of American soil when the masses of the Amerihan people shall have deen degraded to the condition to which the French toilers then were.

The safety of capital and enterprise in this country is not found in a standing army; for we have none. It is not found with armed police co-extensive with the country, or even with our great industrial centers, for we have it not, and we have not the means of providing such protective agencies. Our army for the protection of order and social well-being is found in the well housed, sufficiently fed, reasonably well educated, hopeful and aspiring working people, and while we maintain these conditions we shall continue to demonstrate to the world that that government is the strongest and most secure which relies confidently on the affection and confidence of its people without armed or other organized restraint.

In so far, sir, as to demand the best possible social conditions for our laborers I declare myself to be a socialist.

—The first annual report of the Bureau of Labor of the State of Michigan just published, gives some interesting statistics showing that as wealth concentrates pauperism increases. In 1870, the population of the State was 1,184,059—in 1880, 1,636,937. The number of paupers supported in county poor houses in 1871 was 3,156;—in 1880, 6,547. Temporarily relieved in 1871, 14,600; in 1880, 33,302. In 1880, there were 1,133 permanent paupers maintained not in poor houses. The total amount expended in 1880 in poor relief was 628,129 dollars.

THE FEDERATION OF TRADES.

The trades unions of the country meet in their fourth annual convention at Chicago on October 7th. It may be interesting to glance at the conservative bodies that have always been identified with this branch of the labor movement.

The Federation of Trades was the conception of the International Typographical Union, based upon the English Trades Congress, which has proved so powerful an adjunct in securing parliamentary legislation for the working people in Great Britain.

In the endeavor of the "art preservative" to federate the various trades under a common head, the International Cigar Makers' Union gave invaluable assistance, as has also the B. of Carpenters & Joiners.

Another great representative union is that of the Amalgamated Engineers, Millwrights and Machinists, whose branches extend all over the civilized world and which probably pays more in benefits than any other similar organization.

A large national union, which will be represented this year for the first time, is that of the Bricklayers.

Although the work accomplished by the Federation has been considerable, yet the need of a closer practical union of trades has become evident. Several plans have been proposed, looking to this end, and it is not improbable that some means may be devised so that issues and treasuries may be pooled by the great trade unions of the country whenever it becomes necessary to engage in a contest with capital.

Not only is it possible that a national amalgamation will be arrived at, but that the workingmen of America and Europe may clasp hands across the Atlantic in an International Federation.

The diverse interests in society have all been classifying themselves, but the greatest of all the movements will be that which results in the creation of an international Republic of Labor.—*Haverhill Laborer.*

HANGING DOORS.

Where no architect's services are rendered in connection with a building, the doors are generally hung according to the sweet will of the carpenter, but there are two ways to hang a door, one, so as to expose the room, and another so as to screen its contents and those who may happen to be there when the door is open. The first way may be very good for public rooms, but, in regard to bed rooms, the doors must swing so that, when partly open, they will shield the apartment from view. Architects themselves are often bothered in this connection with the views of the owners. Closet doors should be hung so that the closet may receive light from the nearest windows. Doors are often made to swing out on stair landings, or halls, and who has not seen two doors so placed that they strike each other when opened. It is hardly necessary to add that these methods should not be adopted.—*B. News.*

NAILS.

A large dealer in builders' hardware said recently that the demand for clinch or clout nails and chisel pointed wire nails had largely increased within a year, as compared with that for the ordinary cut nails, and that flooring nails, with the wedged shaped heads, were also used in place of the nails with the flat upset heads. His reasons were that better work resulted from the better nails, and there was far less waste. For the coarsest purposes the less first cost of the ordinary cut nails with the flat head induced builders to continue their use, but he believed the improved form and better material of the tough wire and clinch nails would, in time, drive out the inferior material and defective form. The principal advantage of the wedge-shaped head, as in floor nails, is that the head never breaks off in driving, as it is only a gradual enlargement of the body of the nail, instead of an upset across the nail. But the chisel point of the wire nail is its especial merit, as it cuts a clean passage through the fibers of the wood for the following of the body of the nail, instead of "stunting" and mutilating the fibers, as the blunt pointed nails do.

The common cut nails will not usually clinch, even when the clinch is turned in the direction of the grain of the wood, but they may be considerably toughened by heating to a red and gradually cooling. A hardware establishment was burned a few years ago, and among the stores were nearly a hundred kegs of cut nails of various sizes. The remains from the five were sold to another dealer, and as soon as the value of the berned nails became known he could sell no others until they were gone.—*Scientific American.*

EIGHT HOURS A DAY.

In the time of Alfred the Great eight hours was considered a day's work. The great king himself so divided up each day as to work eigh hours, sleep eight and enjoy eight hours' recreation. If eight hours were long enough to work then, surely eight hours should constitute a day's work now, for, in the time of Alfred, it would take twenty men a week in some branches of industry to produce what one man can do in a day now, with the aid of machinery. But the introduction of labor-saving machinery, instead of being a blessing to the industrial masses, by the greed of capital has become a curse; instead of shortening the hours of labor it has, by the same shortsighted greed of capitalistic knaves, reduced by overproduction the laboring masses to starvation wages, compelling the children of wage-workers to be put to toil at a tender age to help keep the wolf from the door. —Albany Citizen.

A GROWING FACTOR.

Trades-unionism as a factor is gaining strength and influence constantly. It is wedging itself in between the manufacturer and the individual worker, and in time the individual will be lost sight of, except as he acts in accordance with the laws and decrees of the trades unions. Most employers regard supply and demand as the sole regulating factor in determining wages. During the infancy of unionism, and in its semi-organized shape, this rule prevailed; but as organization becomes fixed and trades-unionism grows a new rule is developed, viz: wages shall be determined by the average reasonable and just requirements of the average, worker. The workingmen will establish this rule by refusing to compete for or accept work below the rates agreed upon.

Phila. Record.

BENEVOLENT FEATURES.

The Cigar Makers International Union reports that during the month of May the following sums were expended under the various heads as indicated below, the total income being $15,042.28:

EXPENDITURES.

Assistance to traveling cigar makers	$ 3,992.70
Sick Benefit	2,889.46
Strike Benefits	16,690.75
Death Benefit	200.00
Total	$23,772.91

During six months ending May the following sums were expended for these benefits:

Assistance to traveling cigar makers	$21,425.62
Sick Benefit	15,351.12
Strike Benefits	52,454.21
Death Benefit	1,830.00
Total	$91,060.95

ARTISTIC WOOD-FINISHING.

The interior trim and door and sash work and the superior cabinet fittings in the offices of the new building of the Mutual Life Insurance Company in New York, are all executed in hard wood in the Renaissance style. They show careful execution and the best of taste, and give not only an appearance of elegance but of unusual solidity to the interior of the massive building. To the visitor who goes through the eight floors with only a look here and there into an office, the extent of the woodwork, although it is practically a fireproof structure, is something to marvel at. The finish on the second and third floors, and portions of the fourth and eighth, is of mahogany, the rest of cherry, all polished in a way to make the most careful housewife envious. The doors are very heavy, paneled, and set with plate glass of first-class quality. Every door, whether entrance door or opening to side room or closet, is held on either side by fluted pilasters with carved caps, the entablature extending around the rooms as a cornice. This cornice is of two styles, nearly equally divided as to floors. It is effectively carved by hand, and some of the caps are specimens of exquisite hand work. The partitions and counters are uniform throughout the building so far as general effect goes. Where glass is used it is held by polished wood, the counters being paneled. The framework of the windows except in the hall, where Italian marble is used, is also effectively paneled. Baseboards and chairboards are finished in keeping with the other woodwork, and nothing has been slighted. The massive doors between the wide pilasters, the rich color of the wood, brought out to perfection under the hand of the polisher; the deepset windows, and the carved cornices, give to each room in the building an appearance of great solidity. The trim in the rooms of the company and in the Chamber of Commerce is of mahogany. To point out one detail is to cover all, so far as finish, design, and effect go. In the Chamber of Commerce are sliding doors, shutting out the library from the assembly room. The doors are paneled in four sections, the panels raised and polished, and inclosed in richly carved moldings. The polished space between the moldings is narrow, giving the whole door the appearance of an artistic carving upon one solid piece of wood. It is said that no doors richer in decoration can be found in New York.—*New York Times.*

Der Carpenter.

New York, August 1884.

Gleichheit und Gerechtigkeit.

Man ſpricht ſo gern über die humane Richtung unſerer Zeit, wie unendlich leichter das Daſein dem Arbeitenden gemacht ſei gegenüber den Zuſtänden in früheren Zeiten, wie Gerechtigkeit und Gleichheit vor dem Geſetze für Alle geboten ſei und wie leicht es heute im Vergleich zu vergangenen Zuſtanden es jedem Tuchtigen ſei, ſich zu einer höheren geſellſchaftlichen Stufe emporzuſchwingen.

Es wäre Unrecht, wollte man beſtreiten, daß Vieles bedeutend beſſer geworden. Doch mit der Gleichheit und Gerechtigkeit für Alle ſteht's noch bedenklich aus.

Die Gleichheit der Rechte in geſellſchaftlicher wie in politiſcher Beziehung exiſtirt nicht. Man kann nicht in Abrede ſtellen, daß den Einen ſchon bei der Geburt der Reichthum, Anderen aber die Armuth winkt, und daß die Erſteren darum zeitlebens vor den Letzteren bedeutende Vorrechte beſitzen, welche ihnen die Möglichkeit bieten, die Anderen zu beherrſchen und auszubeuten.

Und daß dieſe mit allen Vorrechten der Geburt Ausgeſtatteten dieſe Vorrechte trefflich zu ihrem Nutzen und zum Schaden der nicht vom Glück Begunſtigten auszunutzen verſtehen, das zeigen uns die beſtehenden geſellſchaftlichen Einrichtungen und die Thatſache, daß wenige Tauſende im Ueberfluß ſchwelgen und Millionen und Millionen im Elend ſind und bei harter, vielſtündiger Arbeitszeit kaum das Nothwendigſte für ſich und ihre Lieben zu erwerben im Stande ſind, auf die meiſten veredelnden Genüſſe verzichten müſſen, weil es ihnen an Mitteln hierzu fehlt.

„Wer da viel hat, dem wird viel gegeben." Dieſer Ausſpruch hatte niemals mehr Berechtigung denn heute. Betrachten wir die Kinder der Armen. Es fehlt ihnen mehr oder minder ſchon vom Mutterleibe an an der nöthigen Nahrung und Pflege. Mit Sehnen warten die armen Eltern darauf, bis die Kleinen im Stande ſind, etwas zu verdienen, damit die Laſten der Familie vermindert werden. Oftgenug fehlt es am Nöthigſten, ſo daß ſich Körper und Geiſt der Kleinen nicht ſo entwickeln können, wie dies unter günſtigeren Bedingungen der Fall wäre. In dem Momente, wo die Faſſungsgabe am entwickelſten iſt, das Gelernte am beſten haften bleibt, müſſen die meiſten Kinder aus der Schule, um einen Beruf zu lernen, reſp. an Brod und Arbeit zu kommen. Sehr oft entſcheidet bei der Berufswahl weniger die Neigung des Kindes, als die Rückſicht auf die Lehrkoſten, reſp. auf die Möglichkeit baldmöglichen Gelderwerbes. So gehen viele Talente zu Grunde, ſo ſündigt die Geſellſchaft an Tauſenden und Abertauſenden, und ſoweit man mit Recht von Arbeitsunluſt ſprechen kann, findet man hier eine Haupturſache derſelben. Der Menſch iſt eben keine Maſchine, er hat ſeine Neigungen, ſeine Charakter und Gemüthseigenthümlichkeiten und wenn dieſe durch die Art der Arbeit in keiner Weiſe befriedigt werden, ſo muß um ſo mehr Unluſt an der Arbeit entſtehen, je einförmiger, ſchlecht bezahlter und langdauernder dieſelbe iſt.

Was wartet einem Proletarierkinde, wenn es die Lehrzeit vollendet? Ununterbrochener Kampf um's Daſein mit wenig Ausſicht auf Erring einer ſicheren Exiſtenz, weil heutzutage der dem Kleinbetrieb Obliegende immer weniger mit dem Großbetrieb konkurriren, dieſen nicht ergreifen kann, weil Großkapital dazu gehört. Kümmerliches Daſein als Kind, ſorgenvoller Kampf um's Nöthigſte und die traurige Ausſicht, als Invalide der Arbeit oder ſonſt Ruinirter auf's Pflaſter geworfen zu werden, von der Gnade der Nebenmenſchen abhängen zu müſſen, das iſt im Allgemeinen das Loos der Arbeiterkinder.

Ganz anders geſtaltet ſich das Loos Derjenigen, die ihre Wiege in den Palaſten hatten. Ihnen wird ſchon von Kindesbeinen auf geiſtige

THE CARPENTER.

und körperliche Pflege oft zum Ueberfluß zu Theil. Alles Schöne steht ihnen zu Gebote, sie haben die besten Lehrer, können bis in's Mannesalter hinein reisen und studiren und wenn sie für ihre Ausbildung und Verbildung genug gethan zu haben glauben, spielen sie den Großen, den aus besserem Teige Gekneteten und heimsen den Arbeitsertrag Derjenigen ein, welche in den Hütten der Armen geboren worden, welche wenig oder nichts besitzen und darum von denjenigen abhängen, welche die Arbeitsmittel besitzen und darum unter den heutigen Umständen die Herren der Erde sind, wenn auch kein Diadem ihre Stirne schmückt und zwar in der Republik wie in der Monarchie.

So wird die soziale Ungleichheit schon vom Tage der Geburt für die meisten Menschen ein Fluch, so daß sie mit Herwegh von sich sagen können:

Alles ist Dein Werk! o sprich,
Alles, aber Nichts für Dich!
Und von Allem nur allein,
Die Du schmiedest, die Kette Dein!

Kette, die den Leib umstrickt,
Die dem Geist die Flügel knickt,
Die am Fuß des Kindes schon
Klirrt — o Volk, das ist Dein Lohn.

Und da die soziale Gleichheit nicht existirt, der Besitz an Arbeitsmitteln sich immer mehr in die Hände Einzelner konzentrirt, so ist die „Gerechtigkeit für Alle" auch nur ein Traum. Die, welche viel haben, besitzen Macht und Ansehen, sie dürfen sich Verschiedenes erlauben, ehe man ihre Unthaten und „namenlosen" Verbrechen verurtheilt. Sie dürfen die Blumen in Menge knicken, vernichtete Ehre und Menschenglück mit Fünffränklern kuriren, das Auge des Gesetzes ist blind — sie dürfen ihren Arbeitern unmotivirt und ungestraft den Lohn heruntersetzen und aus dem Sündengeld noch — toller denn bisher leben, sie sind doch immer ehrenhafte Größen und ihre Laster „noble Passionen". Ihre Lohndiebstähle sind unbedingt nothwendige Handlungen patriotischer Natur, weil dieselben nach der Darstellung der Lohnschreiber dazu dienen, unsere Industrie mit derjenigen des Auslandes konkurrenzfähig zu machen. Sie dürfen die ganze Woche blau machen und in allen Freuden schwelgen, sie sind dennoch keine Prasser oder Müssiggänger, denn ihr Kapital befruchtet das Land, sie geben den Massen Arbeit und Brod. Sie dürfen an Leib und Seele verlottern, ihr Antlitz darf ein Spiegel aller Laster und schlechten Eigenschaften sein, was thut's, die Masse zieht doch vor den noblen Herren ehrfurchtsvoll den Hut! Sie dürfen das Volk durch ihre nimmersatte Habgier um Hab und Gut bringen und an das Hungertuch heften, was verschlägt's, Arme und Reiche hat es immer gegeben, es ist das selbst dann göttliche Weltordnung, wenn offenbar der Teufel das Regiment führt.

Anders urtheilt die Masse, die Staatspfaffen, überhaupt die Welt, gegenüber armen Schluckern. Lump, Dieb, Blaumacher, schlechter Kerl und andere Titel sind so billig wie Brombeeren dem Armen gegenüber, selbst dann, wenn er moralisch hoch über dem reichen — Lebemann steht. Der Armuth wird keine milde Beurtheilung, an ihr ist Alles verkommen, ekelhaft und schlecht, weil sie in schlechtem Kleide einhertritt und sie nicht die Waffen und oft auch nicht die Raffinirtheit der Reichen besitzt, sich wegen liebloser Behandlung zu rächen.

Gleichheit und Gerechtigkeit wird unter den heutigen gesellschaftlichen Zuständen niemals erstehen, denn wer Besitz hat, hat Macht und Recht, Ehre und Ansehen, der Verarmte ist die Zielscheibe aller bösen Mäuler.

Freiheit, Gleichheit und Gerechtigkeit für Alle erstehen, wenn der Sozialismus leitendes Staatsprinzip geworden, wenn die Ausbeutung des Menschen durch den Menschen beseitigt ist, wenn die Arbeitsmittel Gemeineigenthum geworden sind.

Auf, Genossen, thut darum was Ihr nur könnt für die Verbreitung der sozialistischen Idee. (Züricher Arbeiterstimme.)

— Die einzige Möglichkeit, durch welche die Arbeiter selbst unter den gegenwärtigen ungerechten Verhältnissen ihre Lage körperlich und geistig heben können, ist eine Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit. Weniger Arbeitsstunden bedingt weniger Konkurrenz durch Arbeitslose und mehr Zeit zum Lernen und Nachdenken.

— Der Arbeiter, dessen Lohn nicht ausreicht, um für seine Familie alle nothwendigen Lebensbedürfnisse zu beschaffen und noch etwas für kommende schlechte Zeiten zurückzulegen, und der nicht im Stande ist, seine Kinder mindestens bis zum 14. Jahre zur Schule zu senden, ist ungerecht bezahlt. Und daß die Zahl dieser bedrückten Arbeiter eine sehr große ist, beweisen die Schaaren von Kinder, die wir überall in Fabriken, Werkstätten und Läden erblicken.

Entweder — oder!

Daß die Arbeiterbewegung in der neuesten Zeit bedeutende Fortschritte gemacht hat und daß die Arbeiterfrage zu einem Thema geworden ist, das soweit die civilisirte Welt reicht, am meisten diskutirt wird, wer will dies leugnen? Die Zahl der Mitglieder bestehender Arbeiter Organisationen hat sich außerordentlich vermehrt und immer mehr Gewerke, in welchen seither noch keine Organisation bestand, machen den Anfang zu solchen und zeigen ein rasches Wachsthum. Es ist kaum ein gesetzgebender Körper in der alten und neuen Welt vorhanden, welcher sich im letzten Jahre nicht in der einen oder anderen Weise mit der Arbeiterfrage beschäftigt hat und in nicht wenigen war dies Thema das anerkannt wichtigste, welches vorgelegen hat. In gleicher Weise gibt die Tagespresse Zeugniß davon, daß die Arbeiter Organisationen zu einer Macht herangewachsen und daß die Arbeiterfrage alle andren beherrscht und nicht am wenigsten thut dies derjenige Theil der Presse, welcher früher nie etwas über dieses Thema zu sagen hatte, jetzt aber mit großem Eifer die Existenzberechtigung jeder Arbeiter-Organisation sowie den Einfluß derselben bestreitet, ein Verhalten, durch das sich diese Presse selbst Lügen straft; denn der Eifer, mit dem sie alles dies behauptet, beweist schon genügend die Wirksamkeit der Organisationen und das Vorhandensein einer Arbeiterfrage.

Es gibt aber eine Klasse Menschen, welche das Vorhandensein einer Arbeiterfrage wirklich nicht anerkennen und dies am besten dadurch beweisen, daß sie von einer solchen weder reden, noch etwas darüber hören wollen. Und dies ist sonderbarer Weise ein Theil der Arbeiter selbst.

Augenblicklich leben wir wieder in einer Periode, in welcher das gewohnte Maaß von Arbeitslosigkeit weit überschritten wird: Lohnreduktionen werden durchgeführt oder man bereitet sich auf solche vor. Die Folge davon ist Noth, Entbehrung und Leiden jeder Art für die davon betroffenen Arbeiter. Von den aufgehäuften Lebensmitteln können sie nichts bekommen, von den Kleidern und andern durch Arbeiter erzeugten Produkten ebensowenig. Dies alles ist im Besitz und in der Obhut einer Klasse, welche wenig oder gar nichts zur Erzeugung aller dieser Dinge beigetragen hat, und sie müssen warten, bis diese ihnen gegen Erzeugung weiterer Produkte wieder etwas davon zukommen lassen. Von denjenigen, welche die Arbeitsmittel besitzen, werden sie zu einer Zeit zur äußersten Anstrengung ihrer Kräfte angewiesen, um zu anderer Zeit zur Arbeitslosigkeit verdammt zu werden. Dieser Zustand kann von den davon Betroffenen nicht geleugnet werden, und es fällt ihnen auch nicht ein, dies zu thun. Aber ein großer Theil derselben weigert sich fortgesetzt hartnäckig, in diesen Zuständen das Vorhandensein einer Arbeiterfrage zu erblicken; d. h. sie weigern sich einzusehen, daß eine andere Ursache als die „schlechten Zeiten" dazu vorhanden sein soll. Sie weigern sich einzusehen, daß die Ursache zur Unsicherheit ihrer Existenz darin liegt, daß sie den die Arbeismittel besitzenden Kapitalisten unverkürzt das Recht einräumen, die Produktion nach Gutdünken zu leiten und die Arbeitsbedingungen nach eigenem Ermessen zu bestimmen. Deshalb ihre Gleichgültigkeit, wenn nicht gar Abneigung gegen jede Organisation, welche sich zur Aufgabe macht, die absolute Herrschaft der Arbeitgeber in der Leitung der Produktion und damit auch die schlimmen Folgen derselben zu beseitigen. Diese Arbeiter fühlen die Noth, tragen die Entbehrung und warten hungernd ein ganzes Leben lang auf „bessere Zeiten", aber sie verneinen die Möglichkeit, wenn nicht gar die Berechtigung, auf dem Wege der Vereinigung sich selbst zu helfen, sie verneinen das Vorhandensein einer Arbeiterfrage.

Anders die vorerwähnte Presse. Es wäre für eine Zeitung sehr schwer, die Zustände wie sie wirklich sind, zu schildern, die schwere Benachtheiligung der Arbeiter unter den bestehenden Verhältnissen anzuerkennen und dennoch ihre Berechtigung zum Organisiren und die Nothwendigkeit durch Vereinigung eine Besserung anzustreben, zu bestreiten. Um dies zu können, muß das Vorhandensein von Arbeitslosigkeit und Hungerlöhnen sowie die Tyrannei der Fabrikherrn geläugnet werden.

Deshalb sagt das New Yorker „Journal of Commerce" in einem Artikel, welcher von kapitalistischen Blättern mit Behagen wiedergegeben wird:

„Das Gewerkschaftswesen hat in diesem Lande der Freiheiten und guten Gelegenheiten keinen Schatten von Existenzberechtigung. Hier kann Jeder, der arbeiten will, seinen Theil lohnende Beschäftigung erhalten. Er wird bezahlt für seinen vollen Werth mit einem Lohn, welcher höher ist, als in irgend einem Theile Europas. Während neun Monate im Jahre, wenigstens, ist die Nachfrage nach geübten Arbeitern in irgend einem Staate der Union größer als das Angebot. Aus diesen wohlbekannten Gründen ist das Gewerkschaftswesen in diesem Lande so unbeständig in sich selbst und erhält so wenig Sympathie."

Angesichts dieser Behauptungen eines kapitalistischen Blattes, welches die Gewerkschaften für unnütz hält, möchten wir den Arbeitern und Gewerksgenossen, welche dies ebenfalls thun und ihrer Gewerkschaft deshalb fern bleiben, oder keinen Versuch machen, eine solche zu gründen, Folgendes zurufen: Entweder Ihr gesteht zu, was da behauptet wird, daß Ihr jederzeit lohnende Beschäftigung finden könnt; daß Ihr immer den vollen Werth Euerer Arbeit erhaltet; daß Ihr während neun Monaten Eueren Arbeitgeber nach Belieben auswählen könnt, weil Ihr gesucht seid und Ihr deshalb keine Organisation braucht — denn andere Gründe kann selbst jenes Kapitalistenblatt gegen Trades Unions nicht ins Feld führen — oder Ihr gesteht zu, daß Ihr seither im Fernbleiben von der Organisation eine Pflichtvernachlässigung begangen habt und daß obige Behauptungen ebensoviel Lügen, darauf berechnet, die Kapitalisten zur Fortsetzung ihres Unterdrückungswerkes zu ermuthigen. Entweder gebt der Wahrheit die Ehre, erkennt die Verhältnisse wie sie sind, schließt Euch Eueren organisirten Brüdern an und bleibt der Organisation treu, oder bleibt Euerem seitherigen Verhalten treu und betrügt Euch selbst und Euere Familie. Dazwischen gibts nichts, wenn man heute Lohnarbeiter ist.

Also: Entweder — oder!

Unser Unterstützungswesen.

Die Gründe, welche unsere Brüderschaft veranlaßte, das Unterstützungswesen einzuführen, sind keineswegs von selbstsüchtiger Natur, sie gipfeln vielmehr in dem Prinzip, das Band der Zusammengehörigkeit und Brüderlichkeit unter unsern Mitgliedern immer fester zu schlingen.

Die Erfahrnng zeigt uns, daß jede Gewerkschaft, die einzig nur den Schutz ihrer Mitglieder gegenüber den Arbeitgebern anstrebt, im besten Falle nur kurze Zeit besteht und nicht im Stande ist, bei eintrenden kritischen Perioden erfolgreich Widerstand zu leisten. Blicken wir zurück in die Arbeiterbewegung, so sehen wir eine ganze Anzahl von Gewerkschaften, die zu Grunde gegangen sind, weil sie noch nicht erkannt hatten, daß es etwas mehr bedarf als das bloße sogenannte „Prinzip", um die Arbeiter fest und erfolgreich zusammenzuhalten.

Eine Gewerkschaft muß die gesammten Interessen der Arbeiter in seiner Beziehung zum Kapital in's Auge fassen; die Höhe der Löhne, die Arbeitszeit, etwaige Fabrikregeln und die Methode der Lohnauszahlung müssen von ihr geregelt werden. Sie muß ihm die günstigste Lage im Arbeitsmarkt zu verschaffen suchen und dadurch in den Stand setzen, auch die höchstmöglichen Löhne zu erhalten. Sie muß die gegenseitige Unterbietung der Arbeiter verhindern und dieselben bei Ausübung ihres Gewerks schützen.

Um all dies zu erreichen, bedarf es der Unterstützung der Gesammtheit und der Mithülfe der Familien aller dabei Betheiligten. Auch die Frauen müssen für unsere Sache gewonnen werden, denn ein aufmunterndes Wort der Frau vermag uns gewaltig anzuspornen und gibt uns Ausdauer in der Stunde der Gefahr. Aber gerade darum müssen die Ziele der Gewerkschaft mehr umfassen, als einzig das Prinzip, sich möglichst gegen die Arbeitgeber zu schützen. Die Gewerkschaften sollen nicht nur ein Schutzverein, sondern sie sollen auch ein Unterstützungsverein sein; ihre Aufgabe muß es sein, ihre Mitglieder zu unterstützen in all den verschiedenen Noth- und Unglücksfällen, die dieselben heimsuchen. Mit einem Worte, die Gewerkschaft muß dem Arbeiter Alles sein und Alles bieten. In Krankheitsfällen und bei Arbeitslosigkeit soll sie durch thatsachliche Hülfe Noth und Sorge von ihm und den Seinen fern halten, sie soll ihn unterstützen, wenn Altersschwäche ihn verhindert, noch ferner sein tägliches Brod zu verdienen, und selbst in der Todesstunde soll sie nicht nur ein anständiges Begräbniß ermöglichen, sondern auch für die ihres Ernährers beraubte Familie möglichst Sorge tragen.

Dies Alles sind Aufgaben einer guten Gewerkschaft und ein Jeder muß sich sagen, sie sind edel und lobenswerth. Können wir wohl besser das Prinzip der Brüderlichkeit verwirklichen, als indem wir diese Ziele anstreben? —

Von diesem Standpunkte ausgehend, hat unsere Organisation das Sterbegeld eingeführt.

— Die Iron Moulders von Cincinnati, welche seit 7 oder 8 Monaten ausgeschlossen sind, weil sie sich weigerten, eine Lohnreduktion anzunehmen, dürften endlich den Sieg davontragen, denn eine der Firmen, welche gegen die Arbeiter verbunden sind, hat die Reduktion zurückgenommen. Dadurch wird wahrscheinlich die Verbindung der Fabrikanten gebrochen werden.

Einigkeit oder Zersplitterung.

Der erste Grundsatz einer gesunden Gewerkschaftsbewegung ist fester Zusammenhang und einmüthiges Vorgehen. Dies ist geradezu die Lebensfrage im ökonomischen Kampfe und alle persönlichen Reibereien und Stimmungsverschiedenheiten müssen vor ihr verschwinden. Hier kann man am leichtesten die wahren Freunde von den falschen unterscheiden. Jeder, der es aufrichtig mit seiner Gewerkschaft meint, wird unter allen Umständen fest zu ihr halten, ganz besonders aber in der Stunde der Gefahr; er wird den Statuten derselben sich fügen, seine Beiträge regelmäßig entrichten und stets bemüht sein, die Gewerkschaft vor Zersplitterung zu bewahren und ihr neue Mitglieder zuzuführen. Dies sind die guten Mitglieder, ohne welche keine Gewerkschaft existiren kann. Leider gibt es aber auch fast immer eine Anzahl Leute, die theils aus persönlicher Eitelkeit, theils weil sie die Entwickelung der Gewerkschaftsbewegung nicht verstehen können oder wollen, fortwährend auf eine Zersplitterung und damit auf den Ruin derselben hinarbeiten. Dies sind die versteckten und daher auch die gefährlichsten Feinde jeder Gewerkschaft und gegen sie muß man stets auf der Hut sein, damit sie nicht aus Unverstand oder Bosheit das zerstören, was ihre Mitarbeiter durch jahrelange Opfer geschaffen haben.

Sollen wir sie immer und immer wieder predigen, jene alte Wahrheit, daß die Macht der Arbeit einzig in ihrer Einigkeit liegt, daß wir unsern Arbeitgebern keinen größeren Gefallen thun können als durch Zersplitterung, und daß Jeder, der diese anstrebt, ein Verräther an seinen Mitarbeitern ist? — Je vollständiger eine Gewerkschaft über das ganze Land organisirt ist, um so mächtiger und unwiderstehlicher wird sie; langjähriger Arbeit und großer Opfer bedarf es, um eine solche Organisation zu schaffen, ihr Nutzen ist dafür aber auch ein ungeheurer. Soll jedoch eine große Organisation erfolgreich sein, so bedarf sie vor Allem einer einheitlichen Leitung; eine in zwei Theile gespaltene Gewerkschaft wird immer nur halb so stark sein wie eine geeinte. Laßt uns daher stets bemüht sein, unsere Organisation noch weiter auszubreiten und zu kräftigen und jeden Versuch zur Zersplitterung derselben mit aller Macht zu unterdrücken.

Allerlei.

— Die Fensterglas-Arbeiter von Amerika und Europa haben auf einer in Europa abgehaltenen Konvention, auf welcher die amerikanischen Arbeiter durch zwei Delegaten vertreten waren, eine „Internationale Fensterglas Arbeiter-Association" gebildet. Mr. Kline, Präsident der amerikanischen Fensterglas Arbeiter-Association, wurde zum Präsidenten derselben gewählt und wurde beschlossen, die nächste Konvention im Juli 1885 in Pittsburg abzuhalten, wo Delegaten aus allen Ländern anwesend sein werden. Durch Festsetzung eines einheitlichen Lohnsatzes wird die Importation von Glas verhindert werden. Diese starke und brüderliche Vereinigung europäischer Arbeiter, welche die erste dieser Art ist, wird von großem Vortheil sein.

— Die Central Trades and Labor Union von Boston versucht einen Fund zu kollektiren, um eine Halle zum gemeinsamen Gebrauch aller Arbeiter Vereine zu errichten.

— In den Car Shops von Dayton, Ohio, sind in letzter Zeit viele Leute entlassen worden. Die volle Zahl Arbeiter, welche beschäftigt werden kann, ist 800—1000, während jetzt nur 200 in Arbeit sind. Man sagt, die Entlassungen finden deshalb statt, um die Leute für eine Lohnreduktion gefügig zu machen. Wenn dies sich so verhält und die Kompagnie führt ihre Absicht durch, so dürfte dies in erster Linie dem Umstand zuzuschreiben sein, daß die Leute nicht organisirt sind.—In den Michigan Car Works in Detroit sieht es noch schlimmer aus. Dieselben wurden für 60 Tage geschlossen. 1200 Arbeiter werden davon betroffen.

— Mr. Andrew Roy, der frühere Minen-Inspektor von Ohio, sagt: In den Vereinigten Staaten sind Gewerkschaften für alle Zweige des industiellen Lebens gegründet worden. Dieselben wurden durch englische Arbeiter hier eingeführt und darum sehr oft mit Mißtrauen betrachtet und als eine importirte Institution bezeichnet, die den hiesigen Verhältnissen widerspreche. Diese Gewerkschaften begannen zuerst im Jahre 1845 die Aufmerksamkeit auf sich zu lenken und sie sind seit dieser Zeit immer an Zahl und Macht gestiegen, so daß man jetzt von den Leitern derselben sagen kann: „Das sind Leute, deren Einfluß im Volke ein sehr großer ist, und die, obwohl nur Privatmänner, doch mehr Gewalt haben, als die Behörden selbst."

NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Rochester, N. Y.

The Brotherhood is the kind of union I have heen looking forward for, and those of our members who have read over the Constitution and By-laws, pronounce it the right thing, and it ought to grow rapidly and stay for all time.

It gives me the greatest pleasure to inform you that our organization has at last decided to come in to the fold of the Brotherhood. Inclosed you will please find P. O. Money Order for the sum of five dollars and a list of Charter members.

St. Louis, Mo.

The new officers of Union No. 5 are: Pres., John Stein; Rec. Sec., H. Thiele; Cor. Sec., C. Heep; Fin. Sec., F. Lambrecht; Treas., John Matthiesen.

Savannah, Ga.

Our meetings are becoming more interesting; new initiations at every meeting and a brotherly spirit pervades our members. Trade is dull, but our members are at work, as we look out for each other. Wages are at pauper rates—$1.50—$2.00 per day—and a great many workmen have come here from Augusta, Ga., and that makes things worse. We have incorporated our union under the laws of the State.

Ottawa, Canada.

It seems hardly useless to attempt to organize the carpenters of this city, as we have attempted twice before and failed. There are too many Canadian scabs here, and although I am a contractor myself, I believe in trades unions and would like to see the men organize. Work is brisk here, wages $1.75—$2 per day of 10 hours.

JAS. PETERKIN.

Covington, Ky.

The presence of our convention at Cincinnati gave Union No. 54 an opportunity to get some of the delegates as speakers at an entertainment in this city on Aug. 3. The hall was crowded and it was a surprise to every one to see over 1500 persons in attendance at a labor festival in this small and quiet town. During the evening addresses were delivered by M. D. Connolly, L. J. Boyer, P. J. McGuire and W. Henderson.

Trenton, N. J.

Work is fair; good hands in demand, but wages are low. General Secretary McGuire visited our union on the evening of Aug. 1, on his way to the convention at Cincinnati. He gave us encouragement by a short address. The election hubbub is now the rage and it seems to interest workmen more than their own union meetings. But never mind, after election we will see what can be done.

Boston, Mass.

The new board of officers of Union No. 33 will do all in their power to make this union second to none in the Brotherhood. Our financial condition is excellent, and at every meeting we have a large number of applications for membership. This goes to show that a new life is pervading our union, and men who could not be coaxed in a few months ago are now only too willing to join us.

Hartford, Conn.

Our members think the monthly Trade Bulletin is a grand thing. Trade is very dull in this city at present.

Nashville, Tenn.

The new officors of Union No. 51 are: Pres., H. U. Rodgers; Vice Pres., R. R. Horn; Rec. Sec., W. P. McGinnis; Fin. Sec., A. D. Shegog; Cor. Sec., R. B. Douglass; Treas., J. W. McNeal; Con., J. J. Argo; Warden, W. H. Skilington; Trustee to fill two year term, A. J. Nite.

Victoria, British Columbia.

Trade is dull here at present and wages on the decrease. We work 58 hours per week by quitting at 4 o'clock on Saturday. That is the first point gained by the carpenters towards reducing the hours of labor in Victoria.

A special meeting of Union No. 48 was held on July 11, and the officers for the ensuing term were elected and installed: Pres., David McDonald; Vice Pres., Allan A. McDonald: Rec. Sec., John Fullerton; Fin. Sec., Wm. Scott (*pro tem.*); Cor. Sec., G. K. Roper; Treas., J. Holland; Conductor, H. H. Roper, (re-elected); Warden, not yet elected. Br. J. Fullerton moved a vote of thanks for the retiring officers which was adopted.

Indianapolis, Ind.

Our new officers are: Pres., E. R. Wood; Vice Pres., R. Thurber; Rec. Sec. T. R. Mount; Fin. Sec. and Cor. Sec., A. H. Haines; Treas., Lewis Tice. Times are hard here on account of bank failures in this city lately. Fully one-third of the carpenters are idle; wages $2—$2.25. Rent and living very dear.

Morris, Minn.

Trade very dull; a few buildings going up, Wages $2 per day of 10 hours. Brick is $14 per 1000. Common lumber $18 per 1000; Flooring $35 to $50 per 1000; siding $28 to $40 per 1000; dimensions $19 to $22 per 1000.

Hamilton, Canada.

Our new officers are: Pres., Robert Retch; Vice Pres., John Butterworth; Rec. Sec., John McKenzer; Fin. Sec., W. H. Fogwell; Cor. Sec., E. Hancock; Treas., D. W. Parker; Cond., D. Connors: Warden, Job Midwinter.

Charleston, S. C.

Our officers for ensuing six months are: Pres., F. E. Rames; Vice Pres., R. S. Wilkerton; Rec. Sec., J. C. Carter; Fin. Sec., J. F. Drayton; Cor. Sec., W. H. Burgess; Treas., W. H. Grant; Cond., A. McNeil, Warden, J. T. Singelton.

Guelph, Canada.

Trade is very dull; will be all worked out in about a month. For want of work many have left the city. The Knights of Labors, the Carpenters and Iron Moulders have formed a committee on the Co-operative Movement, We have succeeded in lowering the price of bread 2 cents per loaf. Boycott the MONTREAL WITNESS; it is opposed to the laboring class.

Raleigh, N. C.

Inclosed find five dollars for a charter for Carpenters and Joiners Union No. 71, Raleigh, N. C. Our officers are: Pres., W. H. Alford; Vice Pres., Louis Hall; Rec. Sec., P. H. Hilton; Fin. Sec., James O. Ruth; Treas., G. C. Lumby; Sentinel, G. H. Ruth.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Council Bluffs Union No. 70 was organized on Saturday, July 18th. The officers elected are: Pres., F. S. Smith; Vice Pres, H. S. Perkins; Fin. Sec., J. W. Boileau; Rec. Sec., W. A. Gleeson; Cor. Sec., F. Barr; Treas. J. C. Fittz; Cond., J. J. Woodward; Prec., G. McPeck; Warden, J. Q. Grager.

Des Moines, Iowa.

The new Union No. 68 started here is strong and vigorous, and we can soon have a couple of hundred members, but will work up slow and sure. Our men are active and enthusiastic. Every member is one of a committee of the whole to canvass the city and get new recruits. We will take none but good reliable workmen.

The new officers of Union No. 68 are: Pres., C. B. Langley; Vice Pres., Geo. Morrison; Rec. Sec., C. K. Junis; Fin. Sec., J. W. Hicks; Cor. Sec., L. G. Heffron; Treas., Geo. W. Reynolds; Conductor, E. J. Reynolds; Warden, E. Hiatt; Trustees, A. J. White, 3 years; Geo. Hoyt, 2 years; John Büche, 1 year; Door-keeper, H. L. Davis; Assistant Con., W. M. Buch, Preceptor, *pro tem.*, Geo. Fitzpatrick. —State of trade is fair; hours of labor 60 per week; wages $2.25 to $2.50. At our last monthly meeting we had 22 new applications.

Cincinnati, O.

There are a great many traveling carpenters in this city, the most of them from Chicago, and they are non union men. The presence here of the convention stirred our union into giving the delegates a hearty reception. On Tuesday evening, Aug. 5, they visited the regular meeting of Union No. 2 in a body and observed our proceedings. After the order of business was passed through short speeches were made by several of the delegates. The most notable speech was that of Bro. L. E. Rames of Charleston. It bristled with eloquent facts and arguments. Bros. Billingsley, Brown, McGinley, Shields and others also spoke.

The next evening, Aug. 6, a public reception was tendered the delegates by Union No. 2 at the Lookout House. The evening was very pleasantly spent, and on Aug. 7, the delegates in a body attended the Cincinnati Trades Assembly. During the five days session of the convention the delegates devoted themselves steadily to their duties, and their was no child's play about them. They were a body of earnest, intelligent men, who knew thoroughly the wants of the trade and legislated to that end.

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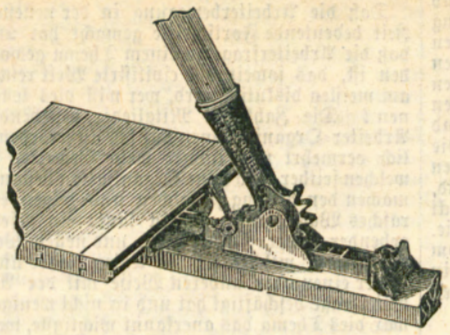

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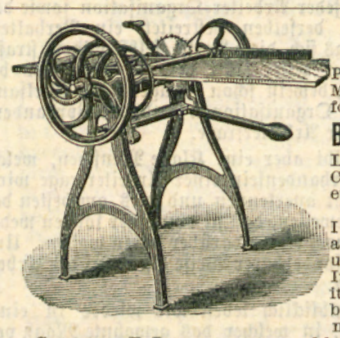
We, the undersigned, are using the Little Giant Clamp and Combination Tool, and can say it has great merit, and we cheerfully indorse all the above statements. W. J. HENDERSON, Treasurer of Local Union No. 21, of Chicago; H. D. CONDRON, member of the Brotherhood, Purchasing Agent for Union No. 21, and sole Agent for Cook County for The Little Giant Clamp and Combination Tool.



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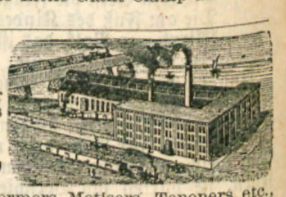

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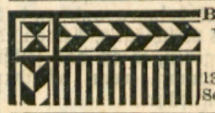

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1884. NUMBER 9.

AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.

The fourth annual convention of the Brotherhood, lately held in Cincinnati, O., passed a resolution which through an error does not appear in the printed report of the proceedings. It is as follows:

WHEREAS, Our Brotherhood is organized for the advancement of the interests of the carpenters eveywhere and, as the interests of all carpenters are identical,

Resolved, That we sympathize with all sister organizations of our trade, and are ever ready to harmonize and cooperate with them for our own common good.

LONG STRIKES.

The Trenton *Advertiser* says: "The Hocking Valley strike is now entering upon its thirteenth week, and although many of the miners were in an almost starving condition when the strike commenced, yet every one of the four thousand miners who dropped their tools on the 21st of last June are still in line battling for their rights. The coercion, intimidation and bribery of the operators has made no converts in their ranks, and we are proud to say there have been no deserters."

This has been a memorable year for long continued strikes, evidencing a firmer determination among the men and a better organization with more discipline and more funds in their treasury."

The Cincinnati Cigar Makers have been locked out 22 weeks; the Iron Molders of that city for 5 months and the Buffalo Bricklayers for over 4 months, the latter having just settled their strikes.

THE LOGIC OF IT.

An eight-hour movement is of more importance than a movement for an increase of wages. If eight hours constitute a day's work, wages will increase of themselves; for the active competition of the idle man for employment will be replaced by the active competition of employers for more workmen.

"The law of supply and demand" has long been used as an argument to keep down wages.

Workingmen have been told that when labor was scarce wages were high; when labor was plentiful, wages were low.

It is self-evident that it will take more men working eight hours a day to accomplish a piece of work than it did when ten hours was considered a day's labor. If we cut down the working hours there must be an increase of workmen, and if we thus withdraw the surplus labor from the market, the natural result, according to the theory of supply and demand, will be to send wages upward without striking.—*Buffalo Justice.*

REDUCED HOURS INCREASE WAGES.

One of the chief arguments used by the manufacturers of Massachusetts, when the ten-hour bill was being agitated in that State, was, that if hours were reduced the operatives would have to bear the brunt of the reduction, because employers must of necessity reduce wages correspondingly. This did not come to pass, for although wages in the cotton factories of Massachusetts are low enough, in all conscience, yet they are better than in other New England States, where the hours of work are eleven and twelve. Look over the whole field of industry, and the almost invariable prospect will be that "the shorter the day, the higher the pay". The explanation is very simple: That one-fifth less hours for a working day employs one-fifth more men, and consequently relieves the pressure upon the labor market, besides giving time for workers to educate themselves to a better knowledge of their condition.

TRADE NOTES.

—This seems to be an age of national and international combinations among the wage-workers. During the past few weeks notices have been made of several national organizations, and the movement is still spreading.

—Carpenters and Joiners Union No. 1, Washington, D. C., propose to open a vigorous and relentless boycott on Mr. Frank Ward, the Alderney Dairy man. It appears that he gave them assurances that he would employ none but Union men on his building, but gave the contract to GeorgeCorbett, who works none but "scab" hands. When the boycott gets in good working order Mr. Ward will, without doubt, find less demand for "Alderney."—*Craftsman.*

The threat of a Boycott and the power of organization back of it brought Mr. Ward to terms.

—The sash, door and blind factory of Messrs. Pierce & Coleman have made a reduction of from fifteen to twenty per cent in the wages of the men in their employ. And yet some carpenters of this city tell me they do not need a branch of the Carpenters' Brotherhood here. Does this look like it?—*Dayton Correspondent in Cincinnati Unionist.*

—THE CARPENTER says: "The only hope for the human race is to give to labor what it creates."

That would never do. It would be making the largest portion of the human race paupers. It would turn the world upside down. It would make the rich folks poor, and those who now are almost beggars would have silver plates put on their doors.—*Iron Molders Journal.*

—In England a workman has the first lien on his employer's effects for the wages he has earned, and can collect his pay without an hour's delay, while in republican America he can be put off and gouged, and often swindled of his earnings altogether, with no effort of the law to do him justice.

—To insure respect for the law we must make law deserving of respect. To stop the masses from attempting outrages against wealth we must insist that wealth shall not commit outrages against the masses.—*N. Y. World.*

—A prize of $50 will be awarded by the Federation of Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada, for the best original essay submitted on "Trades Unions and Strikes." This essay should make not less than eight nor more than twenty-four pages of the size of the annual report of the Federation. Send manuscript this month to Secretary Frank K. Foster, Haverhill, Mass.

—A new power (the trade union) has entired into the industrial world which must be recognized. It is apparent that this power connot be destroyed by force or violence unless society be destroyed with it. It must be heard. Its just demands must be heeded. This is the voice of reason.—*Abram S. Hewitt.*

—The twenty-eighth anniversary of the eight hour movement was celebrated in Melbourne, April 21, and was an unqualified success. That day is considered a great holiday among the organized mechanics of Australia.

—The August report of the Amalgamated Carpenters shows 414 branches, 24,334 members with 916 on unemployed benefit, 492 on sick benefit and 22 superannuated. Trade is bad all over Great Britain and the Colonies.

SOME TRADE STATISTICS-TOO DRY TO READ.

The average death rate of the Amalgamated Carpenters Society last year on a membership of nearly 23,000 was only 7 to the thousand or a total of 161 deaths, which were chiefly from lung and heart diseases. On an extended experience of 24 years of the society's existence, the average rate of 7 deaths annually to the thousand has been seldom if ever varied from. The average death rate among wives of members is 6 to the thousand.

From the annual report for 1883 we also learn that in the 350 British cities reported, wages run from $5.12 to $10.37 per week, and in very few cases is work done by the day or piece. The rule is to work by the hour in order to keep the hours of labor reduced. In Summer the hours of labor run from 49½ to 58½ and in Winter from 44 to 58. This depends upon the locality, most of the cities work 54 hours per week and in all the British cities mentioned only 4 cities work 60 hours per week. Wherever the hours are fixed the rule seems to be $10 per week for 54 hours work. The cost of living of course being much cheaper than here.

FOGWELL'S DEATH.

In the loss of Bro. W. H. Fogwell of Union No. 18 of Hamilton, Canada, we miss one of our most devoted and efficient members. For over two years he was the Financial Secretary of No. 18 and was as prompt as clock work, always dutiful as an officer and attentive as a member. His zeal and earnestness made him an honored friend among his fellows, and his untimely death makes him all the more deeply missed. The following account is taken from the Hamilton papers:

A fatal accident occurred at 8 o'clock this morning (Aug. 18.) at the gas works. A new purifying house is in course of erection there, and this morning a portion of the scaffolding was being removed. One of the workmen, an Englishman, named Wm. Fogwell, was alone on the scaffolding at the time. Suddenly a loose board gave way under him and precipitated him to the ground, a distance of about eighteen feet. He fell on his head on the stone foundation, and his neck was broken. Death was instantaneous.

Fogwell was a good workman and a respectable man, and was much valued by Mr. Sharpe, the contractor of the building for whom he had been working. He was 46 years of age. A widow and six children, the youngest of whom is an infant in arms, are left without means of support by his awfully sudden death.

The remains, were interred in Burlington cemetery. The funeral was a very large one. Union No. 18 turned out in a body, and with a number of friends assisted in the last sad rites.

—In Buffalo, N. Y., the Bricklayers are now in the eighteenth week of their strike, and still firm. They keep away from all work, meeting in their hall twice daily.

TRADE UNION CONVENTIONS.

State Federation of New Jersey meets at Newark, October 6.—Cabinet Makers' International Union, at Pittsburgh, Sept. 15.—Tailors' International Union met Aug. 11.—Train Dispatchers formed a National Union at Louisville, Ky., Aug. 20.—Federation of Trades and Labor Unions of United States and Canadas, at Chicago, Oct. 7.

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—Washington Union No. 1 is enthusiastic over the work of the Convention and accepts it unreservedly, and the union has now assumed an aggressive position and is initiating many new members every meeting. Our General President proposes to organize Petersburg, Danville, Lynchburg and Norfolk.

—Cleveland Union No, 11 held its annual picnic on Aug. 26.

—Bro. C. W. Green, of Union No. 58, of Omaha, Neb., is elected sixth Vice-President of the B. by the Convention. Bro. Green is also elected by Union No. 58 as its local President, in place of Bro. H. Porter, who has left the city: J. McAllister, Treasurer, and T. Stoneman, Rec. Secretary, have also left the city, and in their stead are: H. Rank, Treas.; E. B. Egan, Rec, Sec.

—The second annual convention of the National Union of Carpenters and Joiners of Germany, known as the "Verband der deutschen Zimmerleute," was held in Berlin on June 1—3, 1884. Delegates from over 50 cities were present, and the time was taken up in organizing a system of trade statistics and in perfecting their constitution.

—Hartford Union No. 4 had an enjoyable excursion to Fenwick Grove, Saybrook, Conn., Aug. 28. They had a train of 15 cars.

—Chicago Union No. 21 has received $25 from Los Angeles Union No. 56, to assist in paying its strike debts.

—Los Angelos Union is growing at a phenomenal rate.

EXAMPLES OF TRADE COMBINATION FOR WORKINGMEN TO THINK OVER.

It is getting to be a usual thing for trades of vast interests pervading the whole country to form combinations for the purpose of fixing prices and regulating production. No business interest is found too large or unwieldly to be handled successfully when all interested obey the articles of agreement. Obstacles, apparently insurmountable — jealousy, mutual distrust', even the personal enmity bred by years of constant and keen competition—have often been subordinated, temporarily at least. The national association of lumber dealers consists of over five hundred and fifty retail dealers, whose object it is to prevent wholesale dealers in the West from retailing lumber to carpenters, farmers and manufacturers. Prices are fixed and strictly adhered to and the combination is successful. The coal and match combination is well known. Stove manufacturers have a powerful and successful combination. Nineteen of the leading publishers of school books have formed a combination by which they are bound to obey the orders of an executive committee as to prices and other matters, with such concerns as theHarperBros., the Appletons and the Scribners as the leading spirits. The manufacturers of reapers, nails, tacks, paper, fire-brick, gas pipe, gunpowder, window glass, barbed wire and numerous other lines of trade are united together. But it remains for the wall paper manufacturers to succesfully carry on a combination in the most brotherly spirit imaginable and they form a pool to reimburse each other for losses during the season.—*Wood and Iron.*

—Wm. H. Foster, President of Philadelphia Typographical Union No. 2, and the father of "boycotting" in America, is an indefatigable worker.—*Boycotter.*

THE CARPENTER.

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NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1884.

TRADES UNIONS.

"Trades Unions" are not in favor
Among some of the rich folks to-day:
Yet the greatest of earth paid them homage
And thrones gave them honor and play.
They sat down at the table of Princes
Long before even Solomon's day,
Assyria and Egypt they built up,
And the temples of old prove their sway.

Skilled workmen with chisel and trowel,
Stonemasons and builders were then,
In Europe, in Asia and India,
Esteemed as the greatest of men.
They had laws of their own in their "Unions,"
And chiefs of their own at their head,
And while carving from quarries great idols,
They worshipped the God overhead.

They had symbols and signs and a language,
And mysteries that we do not know,
The Essenes were ancient "Trades Unions,"
As history and ruins both show.
When the Church, many centuries after,
Built over St. Peter's a dome,
Mechanics still traveled in "Unions,"
And the palace was often their home.

These masons, these builders, these craftsmen,
Were they any better than ours?
No more than their squares or their plummets!
But their "Unions" had far greater powers
They had charters from State and from Kingdoms,
Popes blessed them with uplifted hand,
And "the keys of St. Peter" enriched them,
And they raised up the cross o'er the land.

Mechanics were great when your doctors
Were jugglers and humbugs of old,
When your lawyers were priests in the temples,
When their tongues were not purchased with gold:
They had "Unions" when those who decry them
Were too low for mechanics to see,
But the dwarfs are now starving the giants
In this so-called great land of the free.

The mechanic who built all creation,
Who spanned earth and sea with his arch,
Gave the plumb-line and square to "Trades Unions,"
And sent progress with them on the march:
It was He made the craftsman a noble
Before even kingdoms were born,
God gave to "Trades Unions" His warrant
This globe to enrich and adorn.

RACE DISTINCTIONS IN A HASH HOUSE.

The St. Louis *Union* in speaking of the treatment of Bro. Rames in Cincinnati says: Most people were under the impression that this sort of proscription had come to an end—at least north of the Ohio River—but it seems it has not. In this case the insult was not offered to the delegate from South Carolina as an individual, but to the entire body whom he had the honor to represent. We know two colored members of the St. Louis Iron Molders' Union who are the only representatives of their race in a body of over 400 men, and we have reason to know that they are among the most trusted of all the members of that union, and are always treated as fellow-craftsmen by that body. Labor has long since abolished race distinctions, but it remains for a Cincinnati hash-house to attempt to revive it between members of the same craft who were inveigled within its doors.

UNAVENGED AS YET.

All the old abuses in society, universal and particular, all unjust accumulations of property and power, are avenged. Fear is an instructor of great sagacity, and the herald af all revolutions. One thing he teaches, that there is rottenness where he appears. Fear for ages has gibbered over government and property. He indicates great wrongs which must be revised.—*Emerson.*

NO LONGER GUERRILLAS.

The struggle for a greater share of profit is, of course, one of the main objects of the Trades Unions, and brings them into direct antagonism with employers; but it is satisfactory, at any rate, to note that much of the old blindness and bittterness has dissappeared. Meantime the Trades Unions have done this signal service, that the conflict is now on the workingmen's side, maintained by an organized force, and not by guerrillas.—*The Century.*

—Philadelphia Union No. 8 has elected Bro. James Dey as walking delegate to protect its interests in that city.

ORGANIZATION AND CO-OPERATION.

The following is from a recent address by Bro. W. J. Reeves, of Omaha Union, No. 58:

Co-operation is the blending of various and diversified atoms into shapely and symetrical forms that instruction and protection may be found in them.

It is based on the fact that man never was intended to live a solitary life, but rather to enjoy the society of others. We find from early times schools of art and science under various philosophers for instruction, and the warrior element banded itself for mutual protection and warfare.

As we come down to modern times, we find the same thing in another form, men of capital band themselves together and call themselves syndicates, and then form pools so as to entirely control the public welfare and government itself, They persuade or bribe legislatures to carry out their purposes, as therein is their success in having control of the power and authority of the land. The workmen of this country do not want to form pools, syndicates or monopolies, but to form organizations for their protection against the formidable array of capital that is stalking through the land. The power of capital is like a scourge, laying in the dust the manhood of the workman and trying to crush him into a mere machine. We only want a fair field and no favor. We must organize because of unprincipled men who are divested of the first principles of humanity, and would destroy and cut down the price of labor, the only commodity that a workingman can bring into market.

We always find a boss when he is a man of principle on the side of the union. The boss of no principle, who seeks not to pay his workmen their fair and legitimate wages, and becomes purposely the lowest bidder that he may make profit from shoddy material and cheating his workmen, is the boss to be opposed. The boss of principle is not always appreciated, because his figures may be higher; but it always pays for the builder to have that man. His work speaks for him, and his men stand by him. The union is formed on the basis of making fair bosses our allies. We will work to their interest by standing for our own. And when we are combined we can shut out from the trade all shoddy bosses and endeavor to have no shoddy men.

But to be sure of this, we must see that we are not apathetic and indifferent. It is not a question that I can leave with my neighbor, but it is an individual matter, it is to make my station in life a higher one; my craft the better for my working at it; to give dignity to my calling so that my children may be the better for my energy, and that they may be induced to follow my example that if possible their lot in life may be better than mine. To do this, we may have to make many sacrifices.

There always has been a struggle against monopolies. Feudal lords in past times had to be confronted by men of the times, the Wallaces and Bruces, of Scotland; the Wat Tylers, of England; the Wililam Tells, of Switzerland, and the Peter Konings, of Flanders. These were men who struggled for their fellows.

Let us co-operate as free men and use our organized power to gain that which has been unjustly withheld from us. We have to keep agitating so that we may not see this great country merge into the hands of the old feudal lords and serfdom, to be ruled by syndicates and monopolies of the present time, be they foreign or native. This country should be owned by the workers, not the schemers. This may be thought to be anarchy and rebellion. But I believe, if Washington himself were alive, he would denounce the whole system as unsatisfactory and tyrannical, as he did the British government. Let us follow the example of our fathers, and let us organize for better conditions. We have a good opportunity; let us now combine our forces and influences so that we may become a power; let us seek to concentrate our lines to bring about the desired good. Let us be a unit on this matter, so that something may be accomplished for the human race. We want reunions, sociables and friendly discussions on various subjects that will put thought in the workman as he toils for his daily bread. Then he will think for himself and act so that what he does is for a purpose.

Up men and be strong, arouse yourselvee and be men. Let us have our nine hours per day, our Saturday afternoon for recreation, our institutes, our reading rooms, our hall, our National Trades Assembly that shall surpass the Legislature itself in wisdom and integrity.

PLAYING WITH A LIGHTED TORCH.

At this distance it looks as if a high-handed outrage had been committed by time-serving official minions of monopoly upon the striking miners in the Fourth Pool in Pennsylvania. Several of the miners had been arrested for "conspiracy!" Thanks to Labor organization no such law remains on the statute books of New Jersey. The incarcerated miners were serenaded in the lock-up by their sympathizers, which so incensed the mining lords that warrants were issued for their arrest, and their president, Mr. Costello, was called upon to assist in arresting his friends. Of course President Costello refused to obey the outrageous summons, and advised the officers to return home if they did not wish to precipitate a bloody riot. President Costello was subsequently found alone and hustled off to jail. The Philadelphia "rat" *Press* gloats over the probable failure of the strike and applauds the imported European method by which it was accomplished. In all such controversies between monopolists and their oppressed workmen it seems as if all the power of the civil, and even military, autority is at the beck and call of the former, but it is never directed to the defence of the wage-slaves. In the Hocking Valley strike that tool of monopolists, Governor Hoadley, absolutely refused to interfere, although the coal barons had imported several hundred private detectives, armed with revolvers and repeating rifles, from a neighboring State. But when the monopolists call upon the civil authorities the whole machinery of law is at their service to crush recalcitrant workingmen. When will the blinded idiots stop playing with a lighted torch among combustibles!! Workingmen of Pennsylvania should not rest till the infamous conspiracy laws are repealed, and to that end organize, agitate and educate, and boycott at the polls every enemy of labor, and this takes in Calvin Wells, proprietor of the Philadelphia "rat" *Press*, and one of the Republican Presidential electors.—

Trenton Advertiser.

CONVICT LABOR IN TEXAS.

The question of contract convict labor is receiving attention at the hands of the Central Committee of Labor Societies and Trades Unions in Austin has issued the following circular:

WHEREAS, The evils of the pernicious and unjust system of hiring out by contract convicts from the penitentiary to enter into competition with honest labor are too apparant to need the recital here of facts and statistics to prove that its workings are inconsistent with and detrimental only to the best interests of the honest workingmen of our State, affecting no other class in the commonwealth to the same extent, and the professions, politicians and officials none at all; therefore,

Resolved, That we call upon all labor organizations, individually and collectively, that they DEMAND of all candidates for Governor and the Legislature what their views are on this important question, and that no candidate shall receive the vote of workingmen who will not PLEDGE himself to endeavor to secure such legislation as will forever forbid the employment of convicts outside of prison walls.

Boston, Mass.

At a meeting of Union No. 33, the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That we tender our sincere thanks to Cincinnati Union No. 2, for the courteous and graceful manner, in which they entertained our president, Bro. W. J. Shields, while delegate to the National Convention of our Brotherhood at Cincinnati." A committee consisting of Bros. Keefe, Packham and McCormack have lately presented a handsome set of engrossed resolutions of regret from Union No. 33, to Mrs. John Clasby.

St. Catherines, Canada.

Trade improving slightly; wages $2; no union men out of employment; many of our members employed out of the city. We are pleased to see the number of unions increasing. We have been obliged to suspend a number of members for non-payment of dues, but since Bro. Rice's sudden death, a number have returned and paid up their dues. The members we have now are all strict union men, and I think we are better off with a list of names, on which we can depend on every man than with a large membership list of "*now you have me and now you have'nt.*"

CRANKS.

Cranks, my son? The world is full of them. What would we do were it not for the cranks? How slowly the tired old world would move did not the cranks keep it rushing along. Columbus was a crank on the subject of American discovery and circumnavigation and at last he met the fate of most cranks, was thrown into prison, and died in poverty and disgrace. Greatly venerated now? Oh, yes, Telemachus, we usually esteem a crank most profoundly after we starve him to death. Harvey was a crank on the subject of the circulation of the blood; Galileo was an astronomical crank; Fulton was a crank on the subject of steam navigation; Morse was a telegraph crank; all the old abolitionists were cranks. The Pilgrim fathers were cranks; John Bunyan was a crank; any man who doesn't think as you do, my son, is a crank And by and by the crank you despise will have his name in every man's mouth, and a half completed monument to his memory crumbling down in a dozen cities, while nobody outside of your native village will know that you ever lived. Deal gently with the crank, my boy. Of course some cranks are crankier than others, but do you be very slow to sneer at a man because he knows only one thing and you can't understand him. A crank, Telemachus, is a thing that turns something, it makes the wheels go around, it insures progress. True, it turns the same wheel all the same time, and it can't do anything else, but that's what keeps the ship going ahead. The thing that goes in for variety, versatility, that changes its position a hundred times a day, that is no crank; that is the weather-vane my son. What? You nevertheless thank heaven you are not a crank? Don't do that, my son. Maybe you couldn't be a crank, if you would. Heaven is not very particular when it wants a weathervane; almost any man will do for that. But when it wants a crank, my boy, it looks about very carefully for the best man in the community.—BOB. BURDETTE.

STOP GRINDING!

A review of the industrial situation shows reduction of wages in several branches of trade, a 20 per cent. reduction having taken place in one of the largest Eastern iron mills, while several have reduced 10 per cent.; a good many large manufacturing establishments have shut down, and several thousand men have been discharged during the week; a number of strikes are in progress for higher wages, or against a reduction, or for a reduction of the hours of labor; the union stove-mounters are willing to work at the employer's terms, but find all positions occupied by non-union men. There seems to be a general tendency toward the reduction of wages all round, and the building trades have not escaped this tendency. Strikes among carpenters, bricklayers and plasterers have been quite common of late, and it does seem as though labor and capital were on the verge of a dreadful conflict, in which all the wars of the past, by the same elements, will be as insignificant skirmishes in comparison. The operative workman of to-day is a much superior man to the operative workmen of fifty or even twenty years ago. While long suffering and patient under many wrongs, abuses and oppression, there is a limit to his forbearance, and we fancy that at this date it is not wise for capital to rouse the aggressive elements within him. The fact is, the operative of 1884 possesses a power of combination and unity of action never held before, and these qualities, if directed against any particular class or party would be resistless in more ways than one. Let us hope, however, that capital will not push matters too far, but stop grinding the face of the operative 'ere it is too late to retreat.—*Builder and Wood Worker.*

THE CARPENTER'S DIALECT.

"How did it happen, John, that you left the boarding-house?" inquired a friend who had missed him from the diningroom for a week or more.

"Well, Tim," replied the carpenter, "I the augur would brace up a bit, it would be all square; but she gave me such pl board that I saw I was getting chise so I took my kit and dusted. It w augured well, as I haven't been bored with whetstone steaks' since."

ROBERT HOWARD'S ADDRESS TO THE SPINNERS.

FELLOW-WORKMEN: Our predictions, in the early part of the year, that reduced wages would still further tend to increase depression in the industries have been fully realized. In the textile industries markets are stagnant—the result of low wages and excessive production, brought about by the too long hours of labor.

There are upward of a million men idle in the country to-day. Hungry labor is begging for work, impoverished by enforced idleness, and is told that is has produced too much, and hence has nothing to eat; that over-production of wealth is the cause of its poverty. Where is all the wealth going? is a question all workingmen should ask themselves. Millionaires are coming rapidly into existence, and for each one of them there are 10,000 paupers.

In the cotton industry, the wages paid to the 134,860 operatives in it in 1870 were $288.10 for their year's labor. In 1880 there were 172,544 people employed in cotton mills, and they received in wages $243.65, or $44.45 less than in 1870, while the production per operator had increased 40 per cent. The working hours in American cotton mills range from 60 to 72 hours weekly. In England, under a monarchical form of government, the hours of labor in cotton mills are restricted to 56½ weekly; and we are told by Mr. Shaw, our consul at Manchester, that the operatives employed in the mills there receive in wages an average of $253.26 per year, for fewer hours than our operatives receive here under the long-hour system.

Why this chronic poverty in a country producing the necessaries of life in almost fabulous profusion?

Look at the following figures and reflect: A girl, to-day, can spin as much yarn as, sixty years ago, would take the united efforts of 100 women. A mule spinner, on the improved mule, can spin as much yarn in one week as would encircle the world. Fall River produces print cloth at the rate of over a mile per minute. Before the invention of the cotton gin a man could clean four pounds of cotton per day; now he can clean 4,000 pounds. Two generations ago, 100 operatives could not, with their joint efforts, manufacture cotton fabrics at the same speed as one operative can to-day. Labor-saving machinery has dispensed with 70 per cent. of labor in woolen mills. There are 4,000,000 sewing machines capable of doing as much work as 100,000,000 sewing girls operating with needle and thread by hand.

Machinery is displacing manual labor, throwing people out of employment, making them non-consumers, placing them in competition with other toilers, which ultimately results in reduced wages, which diminishes the ability of the masses to purchase and still further aggravates the already diseased condition of the markets.

These are matters we want workingmen to seriously consider, and dry to devise such means as will bring about their satisfactory and happy solution. The prosperity of this or any other country depends upon the industry of its people.

Then, workingmen, we implore you to join some organization in the interest of labor. Organization is strength; Trades Unions are the schools of true civilization, and the discussion of great social questions at their meetings both educate and direct intelligent efforts through their members.

On behalf of the committee,

ROBERT HOWARD, Secretary.

THE HOPE OF MECHANICS.

There are several reasons upon which to base the strong hope for the future of the American mechanic. The multiplication, with the consequent cheapening, of technical journals, is one. Thousands of carpenters, and cabinet workers who a few years ago were content to do little if any reading, are now subscribers to one or more publications devoted to their line of work. That the exchange of ideas thus brought about has greatly broadened the horizon of their work, goes without saying. The workman who reads must necessarily become a better workman for it. Again, the increasing disposition of practical men to write out their observations is a hopeful sign. The mechanic who trains himself to observe, note, and submit to writing his experience cannot help becoming more exact and intelligent in his work. Other important factors at work are the formation of mutual benefit societies among workmen, the establishment of reading rooms and libraries, the inauguration of lyceums and the increasing value with which the mechanic regards his right to vote—all pointing unmistakably to his rapid elevation to wider influence, greater usefulness, and an independence never before enjoyed by the class to which the intelligent mechanic belongs.—*The Builder and Wood-Worker.*

NOT DEGENERATING—TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

"Is carpenter work degenerating? That is the question put by your correspondent Ransom? and then to some extent answers it himself, but fails to state the cause for facts he alleges. He also objects to "the saw and hatchet brigade who lack the knowledge of good mechanics." The truth is that in the present day it is quicker and cheaper to get mill work in a city of any considerable size than to make the same work by hand as in old times. No carpenter in a city now thinks of lugging about a two or three hundred pound chest of tools, consisting only of moulding, sash, and match planes, as many in the country did in former years, in addition to the ordinary chest of tools which came into every day use. Nowadays fine office and store fixtures and much other work comes from the mill in such shape that a couple of ordinarily clever workmen with only a shoulder box full of tools between them will put it up more rapidly and fully as well as did the thoroughly trained carpenters of old times after making the fixtures by hand. The proportionate number of carpenters who are "good wherever you put them," is decreasing from this and the fact that when a man finds himself particularly fast and good at any particular branch of the business, he follows that in preference to any other and finds it more profitable to do so. A saw and hatchet brigade with very little experience and a natural aptitude for handling these useful articles can lay as much flooring in a day as the same number of skilled carpenters who have served an apprenticeship of years, and if the skilled workmen have grown gray in the service they will probably find the others outworking them. A builder who pays a skilled workman $3.00 a day for such work connot compete with another who gets as much or more work from each man and employs men who know nothing but this at $2.25 to $2.75 per day. It is true that in this case the last-mentioned builder must keep a few skillful men to do the finer work, but in a city where the buildings are mostly brick or stone, the work on them, such as laying-joists and flooring is hardly deserving of the name of carpenter work. The builders do not want to remedy, as "Ransom" expresses it, "this great trouble," nor have they any object in keeping one or two apprentices about their shops when at any time they want them an advertisement will bring them a hundred men. When the supply of carpenters so greatly exceeds the demand that the wages of good workmen are actually less than those of hod carriers, I cannot see the advantages of apprenticing a boy to the trade. It seems to me that for the advantage of builders, apprentices should work for years to acquire the necessary skill, accumulate several hundred dollars' worth of tools and then hunt for work a considerable part of the time without finding it. Many of the things they learned during their apprenticeship, within five years, would be entirely useless, from the fact that improved machinery would do better and cheaper work than they could. Builders and carpenters know this, and the carpenters who have apprentices, too often have to put them to making ironing boards and shining boxes during dull seasons. What is more necessary than more apprentices, is that men claiming to be skilled workmen spend less time in talking of how twenty years ago they worked for three months getting out the sash for Col. Jones' house in Bungtown, "all made by hand, sir," and apply their leisure to learning to use advantageously tools and appliances unknown when Col. Jones' house was put up in Bungtown.—*Building Trade Journal.*

Cincinnati, O.

Union No. 2 has gained a decided victory here in threatening to boycott scab labor. Some carpenter work was to be done in Workmen's Hall, and the proprietor was notified that if it were not done by union carpenters, we would no longer meet in the building and we would get other trades societies, who now meet there, to vacate with us. Not long ago a job of carpentry on the building was done by scabs. This time we stopped it, for the contractor, who is to do the work, has forced his men to join us and has come to our Fin. Sec., to get a certificate for hiring union carpenters.

PUT IN THE RIGHT LIGHT.

Among the more intelligent business men it is a recognized fact that the welfare and prosperity of the working masses means a corresponding increase in their business. If the workingmen are employed and are receiving remunerative wages, the merchant at once feels the effect of the same upon his sales. It goes without saying that the workman receiving good wages can supply his family with many little comforts and luxuries that his more unfortunate co-laborer receiving only a small salary can not afford.

Now, what will best promote this state of prosperity among the wageworkers? This question, we think, capital has satisfactorily answered, as evidenced by the number of combinations in every branch of trade. In numberless instances capital has set the example of organizing for its protection, and the bread-winner, knowing that he can not as an individual secure recognition of his rights, has combined with his fellow-craftsmen for this purpose, believing in the truth of the saying. "In union there is strength" After results have proved the wisdom of this step, and in every trade so organized the benefits have become at once apparent in the betterment of the condition of its members.

All fair-minded men are willing to concede this right to labor. Others, blinded by self-interest, are not, and against such we are compelled to take up arms.—*St. Louis Unionist.*

SCHOFIELD'S IMPROVED CLAMP.

We call attention to an advertisement on our eighth page of the LITTLE GIANT CLAMP. It is intended for use by Carpenters, Joiners, Pattern and Cabinet Makers, and other wood workers.

This Clamp can be applied to most all kinds of work where a Clamp is needed—especially in laying floors. It will lay floor either on joist or on top of floors: it requires no set screw to hold it on the joist or floor, to keep it from slipping. The instant this Clamp is placed against the work, it is fast; no stooping over to fasten it, or to slack it off the work, is required. It can be shifted in an instant from one joist to another, therefore losing scarcely any time. For shop work it is indispensable, as it can be applied to hundreds of different purposes, such as gluing table tops, sign boards, setting up sash, doors, blinds and all kinds of work where a Clamp is needed.

The advantage this Improved Clamp has over all others is the lightness, durability, strength, and cheapness. Its price comes within the reach of every mechanic. It can be carried in any carpenter's tool chest or tool box, taking up no more room than an ordinary smoothing plane, and weighing no more, thereby making one of the best articles in the market. The clamp is malleable castings and will sell to most every carpenter or wood-worker. When once seen by a carpenter or mechanic they want one.

Circulars and price list can be had of SCHOFIELD & CARTER, 86 E WASHINGTON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

Columbus, Ohio.

Business is dull in this city. Wages have been reduced 10 to 20 per cent.; a great many carpenters are idle. Some old skinners are building houses and business blocks, and doing their own hiring and bossing, advertising for men to come from other places and giving them the very remunerative sum of $1.50 per day. Notable among those are a few bankers, doctors, and politicians, who will tell us workingmen to vote as they do, but will not give one days' work to a Columbus man, while they can procure men elsewhere. I would advise carpenters and particulary union men to pay no attention to the advertisements of these miserable bloodsuckers, as this place is already overcrowded. More especially is it so with the hatchet and saw class, those come day—go day kind. Our Union is picking up and in a short time we will make a respectable showing. We have made a gain of 15 members the past month. We are young in the business, but experience is teaching us that we have been like Rrip Van Winkle asleep too many years. But it is never too late to do good. Wages $1.50 to $2.25 for 10 hours per day—cost of living high and house rent $12 to $18 per month.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.

Union No. 64 holds its meetings every Friday evining; new members coming in steadily. About 30 carpenters are idle in this small place, but not one of them a union man.

Omaha, Neb.

We have inaugurated a strong Trades Assembly here and accepted a Constitution that of Denver subject to reunion. We meet again in two weeks so that the committees might have time to report. We have a number of shops here that will not have union men, and we want soon to take some action toward them; those appeals you sent are put among those men. We have had a communication from Lincoln, Neb., stating that they were moving toward forming a union. Business in Omaha remains dull; more men than work with a downward tendancy of wages in consequence. Men are coming from other cities, having an idea that this is a good place, to find on arriving their mistake.

EXPENSES, AUGUST, 1884.

G. S., traveling expenses to Syracuse	$16.00
" " " Philadelphia	2.50
Wrapping paper	.58
Stationery for Convention	1.80
J. P. McGinley, E. B. services, etc	4.00
G. Brethauer, " " "	4.75
M. D. Conolly, printing proceedings	71.75
Expressage, plates, "	1.00
2 telegrams to Connolly, "	.85
Expenses of G. P. attending Convention	44.32
" G. S. " "	42.00
Thurber, Indianapolis	8.00
Telegram to Iron and Steel Workers	.71
3 " Buffalo	.75
3 " Rochester	1.25
Expressage to Philadelphia	.30
Stationery for Office	.92
New counter and repairs on seal	2.50
Mailing August Journal	3.84
Wagon hire	.50
Postage, letters, supplies, etc	21.12
Salary, 5 weeks	100.00
Printing 1000 note heads for G. P. & G. S.	3.05
" 4800 members cards	21.00
" 1500 trade reports	12.00
" 500 Eng. Constitutions	9.00
" 4200 Aug. Journals	72.50
" Amendments to Constitution	2.50
Total	$449.94

DEATH BENEFITS PAID.

12. G. W. Hedrick, Washington, D. C.	$250.00
14. H. Aufdemberinke, Cincinnati	250.00
17. W. Dickey, Portland	250.00
Money Orders on same	1.80
Total	$751.80

"Whatever new dangers the development of trade unionism may yet bring with it, the movement has at least opened out to us a new hope. It has given men a confidence which theorists were wont to discourage, in the power of the workmen to raise their condition by combination, and a new belief in the truly social doctrine that the advancement of one class, however it may at first seem to threaten others, must conduce in the long run to the advantage of all." *Pall Mall Gazette.*

—The Stonecutters of this City are locked out by a combination of master builders who object to the Stonecutters assisting Bricklayers in union troubles. The indications are favorable to the men.

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Should send for the best **COMBINATION TOOLS** for Clapboarding. Takes the place of all the old tools except the saw and hammer. They are made of the best malleable iron, nicely japanned and nickel plated, neatly packed in a box with full directions for using. If your hardware dealer does not keep them we will send them to you on receipt of $3.50. Parties ordering together will save on express charges. Address, **BASSETT & WASHBURN, Plainville, Connecticut.**

THE CARPENTER.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners,

OF AMERICA.

Office: 184 William St., New York.

TERMS.—Fifty cents a year, in advance, postpaid.

Send all moneys and correspondence for this Journal to

P. J. McGUIRE, Secretary,
184 William St., New York

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1884.

—The Bricklayers of this city are holding out against a few old time scab bosses who will not concede the nine-hour system. On all other jobs the nine hours is adopted.

—From all sections of the country comes the universal cry of dull times among carpenters and every locality is more than overrun with strangers and idle men. Save only where a union exists wages have been reduced. And all this comes with the usual depression which is incidental to a presidential year.

JOHN JARRETT.

It is untrue that our convention sustained President Arthur in withholding the Labor Commission from John Jarret. This error is due to the Cincinnati *Evening Post*, which said we "approved" of the President's course and it ought to have read that we *disapproved* of his course. A committee from the convention waited upon the editor, and were promised the justice of a correction but the correction was never made. This is an instance of the truthfulness of capitalistic papers. We hope that the labor papers which have circulated the mistatement will be fair enough to make this correction.

THE FEDERATION OF TRADES AND ITS ANNUAL CONGRESS.

From the very inception of this Congress our Brotherhood has been foremost in its advocacy and support. We have been represented in each Trades Congress and will be in the next. We believe a Federation of Trades and Labor Unions is the only practical way in which to identify the interests of one class of labor with the other, and yet preserve the distinctive organization of each without consolidation or centralization, or doing violence to each other's special trade desires.

To influence legislation in Congress and the States, regardless of party, to extend the influence of trades and labor societies, to federate them in one chain of fraternal interests, to financially assist each other in trade troubles, and to boycott adverse employers and business men, are some of the objects for which the Federation was founded. And in this it has done a vast amount of good work.

Never was it the thought that the Federation should be the head centre, from which should emanate all power and authority, nor can any other organization ever fulfil that mission. The very moment the labor movement attempts to reach any such pitch of centralization, it will fail of success by that means. The general movement of all trades must be organically federative and voluntary, and not centralized and autocratic.

The Federation can be simply representative and reflect the sentiments of its constituencies—nothing more. It can not go very far in advance of them, but it can at least offer suggestions. One of the suggestions it might very appropriately act upon, is proposed by Bro. Edmonston and printed this month in our columns. It is worthy of profound consideration, and we favor its adoption.

CONTINUED PROGRESS.

Our growth still continues, and it is healthy and vigorous! Ten new unions have been formd in the past few months. Charters have been granted as follows:

No. 65. Grand Rapids, Mich. No. 66. Houston, Tex. No. 67. Humboldt, Ill. No. 68. Des Moines, Iowa. No. 69. Syracuse, N. Y. No. 70. Council Bluffs, Iowa. No. 71. Raleigh, N. C. No. 72. Rochester, N. Y., No. 73, Leavenworth, Kansass, No. 74, Pensacola, Fla. The four latter have been granted since the convention. Unions will soon be chartered in Leavenworth, Kansas, and St. Paul, Minn. This proves beyond dispute that our Brotherhood is a growing and progressive organization. This Fall we purpose an active agitation in many unorganized cities.

NOTES OF WARNING.

In labor circles everywhere, in every trades assembly or central labor body the Presidential craze is likely to be dragged into discussion, and in some quarters strenuous efforts will be made to commit the labor societies either to Butler, Blaine or Cleveland.

We warn our carpenters local unions against being made a party to any of these controversies. Carpenters Union No. 1 of Washington has taken a sound position against allowing trades unions, consisting as they do of diverse political elements, from being dragged into the the mire and slush of party politics. We are organized for our own industrial and social emancipation, and no political or sectarian test is required from our members, the only qualification being a mere craft test, upon which all men of the trade can unite regardless of nationality, politics, creed or color.

Men are expected to more readily unite on questions concerning their daily interests in the shop and at their occupation, than upon mere abstract questions of government. And the struggle to organize labor even upon this practical basis has been slow, steady and up-hill fight full of difficulties and discouragements. Thanks to the energy of the true and devoted men of the movement the cause is now more hopeful of promise, and the unity of labor is growing stronger and extending its lines more and more widely. Why then disturb this unity by dragging into our meetings question of party politics?

Will the election of a President of the United States, even if favorable to us, give us more pay, shorter hours and better working conditions?

How much has any President of the United States ever done for us?

Have we not trusted too much already to Presidents and Legislators, to do things for us, that while waiting for them we might have done for ourselves?

This thing of waiting for Government to uplift us has been a delusive farce. It is played out! Government will only do for us whatever it is forced to do, and then very reluctlantly and often to hoodwink us.

What measure of congress, what act of a StateLegislature has ever been passed, or what declaration of a politician has ever been made, favorable to the labor interests, that was not the result of having an organized labor force which compelled it?

And just as this labor force grows stronger, and becomes better disciplined, its ideas will become unified and it will act in harmony on political as well as social questions. This will come by force of circumstances and experience. But in the present embryotic condition of the labor movement to drag in party politics is to thrust in the wedge of dissension which will end in a grand smash up of our societies.

The Baltimore Federation of Trades has discussed this subject and adopted a resolution which fully meets with our approval. It is:

Resolved, That as this organization was formed for the purpose of benefiting, elevating and ameliorating labor in this city and State, we deem it unwise to endorse any of the candidates presented for the office of President of the United States, *leaving each and all members free to their principles in the matter.*

We advise all unions to dispose of this question in the same way: It does not concern our unions as unions; we have other business of vastly more importance to attend to and no one else outside of ourselves will attend to it. And that is to extend our organizations, get better social conditions for ourselves and our families, get shorter hours of labor and better pay or our work.

We warn our unions to beware of those who would drag party politics into our unions to divide and destroy us!

AN AMALGAMATION OF WOOD-WORKERS.

Some parties in Pittsburgh are proposing a National Amalgamation of Wood-Workers, consisting of Carpenters, Cabinet-Makers, Turners, Carvers, Machine-Workers, etc. To us this seems to be like building the chimney first and then put the house around it. These separate trades should be completely organized first in National or International Unions. Then a wider organization may take place afterwards. The Amalgamation of the Iron and Steel Workers is proper enough and in place, inasmuch as that Amalgamation embraces all classes of labor employed in the same mill. There is nothing in the way of that same plan in each distinctive branch of wood work. For instance, our Brotherhood now embraces any carpenter, joiner or skilled hand employed in the wood work of the house-building trade. The Cabinet-Makers' International Union does the same in their line. Hence all that remains is for each organization to be still further extended, and let all combine under the "Federation of Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canadas."

We notice that reports from Pittsburgh show a large majority of non-union carpenters. Why not organize them first into a Carpenters' Union before amalgamating them with everybody else? The natural form of labor organization springs from the men of one trade first. When that is perfected, other things can be done.

STRONG SENTIMENTS.

Is there a more sacred property than that of one's own labor? Against this property there has been a perpetual conspiracy. War, slavery, imposture, special privileges, commercial frauds have been its enemy. In our country, railroad jobs and grabs, bank corporations and all other forms of greed have invaded this property in labor. It has often struck for its own. It is dealing good blows to-day. It will not be barred out. By the rules of deathless memory and inexorable penalty, the spoilers of the laboring masses should be remembered, and their punishment made sure, effective and perpetual.

The question of labor lay hidden in deep mines, remote valleys and gloomy factories, and the opulent few did not seem to investigate it in the interests of the impoverished many. It has come to this, that men want something more wholesome than current politics, more refreshing even than bread and water polemics. Definite votes are well, but sustenance is better. The repeal of bad laws is good, but the making of just laws in their place is necessary.—Congressman S. S. Cox.

ANARCHISTS IN TRADES UNIONS.

There are two classes of Anarchists, viz: the Political Anarchists and the Social Anarchists. And both of them are at war with every constructive tendency of the labor movement.

The Political Anarchist is one who believes every trades union and labor organization should be used to make capital for a political party of any kind that will advance him to some office, or will satisfy his own inflated desires for notoriety and political leadership. The Political Anarchist believes every labor evil springs from legislation and can be cured only by more legislation. His whole cry is "Politics" and "the ballot box." And if he belongs to any trade union or labor society, he keeps it ever in a ferment of politics and personal wrangle, forever raising bickerings and dissension among his fellow members. He is generally a political kicker whose egoism leads him to smash every organization that he can, provided it does not subordinate itself to his selfish whims. Such a kicker should be kicked out!

The Social Anarchists are those who talk of petroleum, revolution and dynamite, and are loudly violent and abusive of those who honestly disagree with them. They oppose all authority and government, because their natures are so individualistic that they are rebellious to every authority and law that does not come from themselves. And were they in power, they would be the most merciless of dictators. Had they the courage of their convictions, they would be far more dangerous than they are. But while they claim to be "men of action," they are over-careful of their own persons and liberty, and hence their ranting threats of assassination and robbery remain mere threats, save only where some unbalanced and criminal mind is influenced by their ravings.

Of this class we would not speak, only that some of them have gained entrance into the trades unions and constructive labor movement with a view to retard and obstruct the progress which it is now making. In New York, Cabinet Makers' Union No. 7 has for some time past been seriously annoyed and hampered by these disturbers. Their policy is to create distrust and suspicion among the members against the officers, and thus weaken and destroy the union. By endless debate and constant irritation, they disgust many honest men and drive them from attending the meetings. Then, if once in possession of the meeting, they rule with a high hand and show their deviltry without bounds. In Chicago, Carpenters' Union No. 21, has had examples of this kind, but now these disturbers are powerless. Whereever they are, though few in numbers, they are influential for harm. And the only remedy is to take severe measures with them. They can't be reasoned with, nor are they subject to discipline. Kick them out wherever they are!

DEATH ASSESSMENTS.

No. 22.—JOHN RICE, Union No. 38, St. Catherines, Canada, died by drowning, July 19, 1884. Bro. Rice met his death while returning home from a meeting of Union No. 38. Having occasion to cross the canal by the lock gates and the night being dark and rainy, it is supposed he lost his footing in some way and fell into the canal. Bro. Rice was a sober, quiet and industrious man. He leaves a family of eight, only one of whom is able to contribute to the support of the family.

No, 23.—SEYMOUR GARDNER, Union No. 52, Charleston, S. C., aged 56 years, died of Congestion of the Brain, Aug. 8, 1884.

No. 24.—WILLIAM H. FOGWELL, Union No. 18, Hamilton, Canada, aged 46 years, died of Fracture of the Skull Aug. 21, 1884, by falling from scaffold while at work. Has left a family of six helpless children.

No. 25.—PERDENIUS PETERSEN, Union No. 21, Chicago, Ill., aged 29 years, died of Erysipelas July 27, 1884.

No. 26.—BENJAMIN RUSH FORREST, Union No. 31, Trenton, N. J., died of (disease unnamed). Aug. 23, 1884. Twenty-five members of Trenton Union No. 31 attended the funeral, a committee of five following the remains to its last resting place at Langhorne, Pa.

NOTICE TO UNIONS.

Calls for Assessments No. 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26 have been sent out to the local unions, and we trust that the unions will send on the money promptly. We want to get this Endowment business into proper shape, and to do so we desire the hearty cooperation of all the unions. Those in arrears are particularly called upon to straighten up their accounts. Assessment No, 22 previously called for, will be set aside as a Reserve Fund in accordance with the constitution. The difference between the dates of deaths and the date of issuing Notice of Assessments is due to the delay of the Unions in sending on the necessary papers.

THE CARPENTER.

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(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members, and particularly for the benefit of our travelling brothers.)

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WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

FROM GENERAL PRESIDENT BILLINGSLEY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 25, 1884.

To the Officers and Members of the Local Unions composing the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

In entering upon the duties of the office of General President, to which I have been elected by your delegates assembled in convention, I am not unmindful of either the high honor conferred, or the grave and responsible duties imposed.

A successful administration of the office will depend to a great extent upon your co-operation and assistance, both of which I hope to receive to no limited extent. I congratulate you upon the result of the labors of your delegates at the last convention in the revision of the constitution, and trust it will meet with the approbation of the entire Brotherhood.

We have every reason to feel encouraged at the continued growth of the Brotherhood since its organization. We have Unions organized in nearly every State besides the Canadas. And I would earnestly appeal to the membership of the Brotherhood who desire to see our craft elevated from the low condition to which it has been forced to satisfy the greed and avarice of unscrupulous men, to come boldly to the front and devote their best energies to the work of organization until there shall not be left a city where our gavel shall not be heard.

I would respectfully recommend to the Local Unions the adoption of some measures to raise a fund to be used only to defray the expenses of organizing new unions when called for. We cannot reasonably expect to be successful while in a partially organized condition. We feel assured that no one interested in our welfare will doubt that the objects we seek to accomplish are worth the necessary effort. Remember that no great good was ever attained that was not accompanied by a proportionate effort. A mere advance of wages, or even the maintainance of the same does not comprise all that we seek by organization.

Men influenced by the same motive for good, united by the same fraternal sympathy, and moved to action by the same impulse, cannot fail to exert a great influence with each other for the improvement of their mental, moral and social condition. And just in the same ratio in which we elevate our craft, so will we command the confidence and respect of an intelligent public.

Take no unfair advantage, even of an enemy. Let our dealings be governed by the highest principles of honor and justice and worthy of an American mechanic.

There seems to be a disposition to attempt the defeat of our efforts by designing men by the introduction of a system of piece-work, which, in consequence of the undue competition it creates, has a tendency to lower wages, greatly increase the amount of work per day, lower the standard of labor, deceive and defraud the owner, and oppress to a still greater extent the mechanic. I would appeal to all local unions to employ all honorable means to prevent the accomplishment of their purpose. Let us oppose piece-work persistently. While I entreat that harmony and fraternal feelings prevail in all of the local unions of the Brotherhood, I would also recommend affiliation with all National and International Unions to that extent that it will not impair our individuality as a distinct trade.

The enforcement of a card system against non-union men, is a matter which should receive the attention of the unions and be adopted with the consent and co-operation of all the building trades necessary to its success. Having appealed to their sense of honor to join us in our efforts to ameliorate their condition and our own, we feel that our duty is ended, and if they do not act, then withdraw from all association with them. The time has arrived when to hesitate will be suicidal, and with one determined effort we should force a successful result.

A demand for the reduction of the hours of labor seems to be quite unanimous in the trades. We realize that it would especially benefit our craft and I suggest its discussion during the next six months, and an appeal should be made to all building trades to co-operate in its enforcement. Particular attention is called to the fact that our General Constitution as revised by the Convention, is designed to go into effect on the 1st of October, 1884, if ratified by the Brotherhood; hence it is necessary for the local unions to take action as soon as possible, so that the result may be known previous to that date.

Finally, Brothers, allow me to express the wish that when we again meet in convention, we shall have the pleasure of reporting the organized state of our trade as second to none, the benefits derived therefrom as enabling our members to live in happiness and comfort, and while we, who have been honored to contribute to its success, shall pass for the last time the portals of the old shop of life may we enjoy the satisfaction of leaving to our successors a heritage upon which they can enter with feelings of pride and satisfaction.

J. T. BILLINGSLEY,
General President.

A NINE HOUR VICTORY IN LOS ANGELES.

At a regular meeting of Union No. 56, Brotherhood of the Carpenters and Joiners of America, of Los Angeles, Cal., the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:—

WHEREAS, The time has now arrived when the Union should take some definite steps to secure the object of the organization, *i.e.*, a shortening of the hours of labor and a fixed standard of wages, therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to canvass the city and secure a pledge from the various contractors, builders and mill-owners, that on and after the 18th day of August, 1884, they shall consider nine hours to be a lawful day's work for the carpenters and joiners in their employ, whether belonging to the Union or not. And be it

Resolved, That to settle the fluctuating price of labor and give employers and contractors a basis of calculation, the committee be also charged to make a demand for a minimum standard of wages of $3.50 per day of nine hours. And be it further

Resolved, That Union No. 56 pledges itself to all employers who will sign this agreement to make no demand upon them for an increase of pay or diminution of hours for the space of one year. And be it

Resolved, That the committee report to the meeting two weeks hence, when the Union will take the proper steps to ratify the measure and take action upon the report. (Signed)

W. G. McDONALD, Rec. Sec.

Bros. E. Newcomb, A. Vinette, and C. E. Hitchcock were the committee. After visiting various shops, they reported.

The following mill-owners, contractors and other builders signed a pledge to the Carpenters' Union agreeing to the nine hours and a minimum standard of $3.50 per day of nine hours in accordance with the above resolutions: J. M. Griffith & Co.: Thomas Stovell, Kerckhoff, Cuzner, M. & L, Co: W. H. Perry, L. & M Co.; William Rommel & Bro., K. McAuley, G. Hargitt, G. W. Kintz, Dennis Hennessy, J. C. Hyde, J. M. Tibbits, George Bittleston, J. W. Hickman, J. Hanlon, McDonald & Co., J. W. Browning, C. H. Kelsey (Long Beach), W. G. Ward, &. X. Gougeon, J. G. Harrow, William Hilton, J. W. Wilson, W. J. Casebeer, W. T. Walker, J. D. Campbell, A. F. Mackay, O. Beauchamps, Anderson & Storm. R. B. Young, L. P. Brown. In addition to the above, the following, without signing the pledge, have given their assent to the measure and will abide by it, if adopted by the Union: E. Barris, G. E Seammen, N. S. Morris, John Anderson, M. A. Marshall, J. K. Skinner, W. A. Vernon, Sylv. Grant, Mr. Finlay, I. N. Hawthorne, Mr. Powell, Mr. Kulback, Seward & Goodwin, Santa Monica; Warren & Liddell, Charles Knowlton, W. A. Stratton, W. S Arnold. A few others were noncommittal on the subject, but, inasmuch as the measure proposed is for the mutual befiefit of all concerned, including Union men as well as non-Union men, no opposition is anticipated on their part.

We offered to work out existing contracts on the 10 hour basis; this will take from one to two months; but they will not hold out to that length of time. The great points secured are these: Perfect good feeling between employers and employes, a determination agreable to both sides, to drive out these fillibuster contractors, who have been forcing down wages and are regular nigger-drivers, public opinion gained in our favor, and the Union still gaining in numbers in spite of the increased fee—27 gained in August in two meetings only, for last meeting we devoted to business and did not initiate. The Painters' K. of L. Assembly are struggling against non-conformists, and we have undertaken to help them along, and I tell you we are making it warm for non-union painters.

Columbus, O.

We are growing steadily and safely and have gained 18 members the past month, and we expect to keep on until we have a respectably powerful union in Columbus.

Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Our carpenters union is growing steadily, but as we are on a low dues basis and our wages are very low, there seems to be some draw back to joining the Brotherhood. Nevertheless the spirit is now more favorable, and all we want is a full attendance to pass upon the question. Since we organized wages have gone up to $1.75 a day—a gain of 35 cents per day through unionism. The idea of labor organization is taking strong hold here; we have a central body called the Amalgamated Union of Halifax, and your visit has kept us busy starting new societies. The annual excursion took place to Princess Lodge, August 18, and it was the largest of the season. THE CARPENTER is kept on file in our reading room, and is read with great interest by our visitors and members, who regard it as the pioneer labor journal in this region.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The present state of trade is very poor, and has been pretty much all of this season. The city seems filled with three times its usual number of carpenters, and it is a surprise that wages still hold good. Thn boss carpenters are aware of the fact that they cannot employ any number of men unless they employ union hands and pay the best wages. It is almost impossible for them to get a man who can do the work they give him, so you see it goes pretty hard for those who are not in the union and a pretty good evidence that the hands outside of our ranks are mostly inferior scabs. There is a great help given us by the friendly feeling existing between Union No. 8 and and the Amalgamated Carpenters of England, as most all of the shops of this city are being filled with great numbers of their members, and we are glad of their co-operation in favoring union men and ousting scabs.

Wages remain as yet $2.75 per day, and very few men idle. The prospects for Fall trade are very gloomy according to the present report. Our meetings are still very well attended, but we would like to see more members taking interest in our work and turn out every Monday night. It would make those who do attend feel more encouraged to go on with the good work of initiating the new candidates of which we have a good number every meeting. THE CARPENTER is a pretty little sheet, and I think all carpenters in the different unions should do all they can to bring it up second to no other trade paper published.

At the last regular meeting the election of officers resulted as follows: President, James Dey; Vice President, Jacob Hartman; Rec. Secretary, Wm. J. Stanton; Fin. Sec'y, C. Thorn; Cor. Sec'y, Sam'l B. Reeves; Treasurer, R. J. Ross; Conductor, George Mann; Warden, Jos. F. Kitchen; Trustees, Geo. Wolf, James Troy, Lewis H. Myers.

Chicago, Ill.

The meeting of Union No. 21, Branch 1, on Aug. 14, was well attended to hear the report of the delegates from the Convention. Bro. Amos H. Gardiner had resigned the office of president of the Branch, and Bro. J. P. McGinley was elected in his stead. Bro. McGinley makes a good presiding officer. Bro. Boyer gave his report of the doings of the convention and was listened to with great attention. Quite a number gave in their names and the necessary money for a printed copy of the proceedings of the convention. We have initiated five new members and the prospects that more are coming. Prospects of work for the Fall are fair, but the city is crowded with strangers. Wages $2.50, $2.75, and some few get $3.00. $3 is still the union rate.

Denver, Col.

A rousing meeting of carpenters and laboring men was held here in the City Hall, August 20, Thos. Muirhead, chairman; E. E. Rice, secretary, J. D. Bailey, Mr. Lenyon, of the Tailors' Union, Col. Stuart, Mr. Hynes, of the Trades Assembly, Balcomb Rice and Gilmore addressed the meeting. The state of trade is very dull. There is perhaps a dozen buildings under way and being finished, and a little jobbing or repairs. The city is overrun with carpenters. Times being dull all over the State, they have come in here like bees after flowers, hoping to get work. A great deal of the work now is being done by the piece, and a small piece and a small price they get. Wages range from $2.25 to $3 per day for 10 hours, and men are rushed like slaves in a cotton field. Our union is growing steadily. We initiated over 20 members the past month. The situation here for the Fall and Winter is gloomy indeed. We passed a resolution at our last meeting to make the initiation fee $2, and dues 50 cents per month.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Union No. 65 is growing very rapidly now, 25 applications last week. We expect to gain control of the School board in this city and then enforce the State law and take about 300 children out of the factories or find the reason why.

OBITUARY RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS the great ruler in his infinite wisdom removed from our midst our worthy and esteemed brother, JOHN CLASBY.

WHEREAS the intimate relations held during his long service as a member of our union and the Brotherhood, makes it fitting that we record our appreciation of his past services in our interest.

RESOLVED, that the wisdom and ability which he exercised in aid of our union by his counsel, service and funds will be held in grateful remembrance by this Union.

RESOLVED, that by purity of life and conversation, by kindness of spirit and grace of conduct, by patience and fidelity in the discharge of his many duties to this Union, he has inspired nobler views of life, and has won the love and esteem of his fellow members, who will always hold his memory sacred.

RESOLVED, that with deep sympathy for his afflicted family, we express our earnest hope that even so great a loss may be overruled for their highest good.

RESOLVED, that these resolutions be printed in the Boston *Herald* and *Globe*, and a copy sent to THE CARPENTER and to the family of our deceased brother.

(Signed), WM. T. McCORMACK,
J. KEEFE,
J. E. PACKHAM,
Committee

A FAIR DAY'S WAGES FOR A FAIR DAY'S WORK.

A fair day's wages for a fair day's work? But what is a fair day's wages, and what is a fair day's work? How are they determined by the laws under which modern society exists and develops itself? For an answer to this we must not apply to the science of morals or of law and equity, nor to any sentimental feeling of humanity, justice, or even charity. What is morally fair, what is even fair in law, may be far from being socially fair. Social fairness or unfairness is decided by one science alone the science which deals with the material facts of production and exchange, the science of political economy.

Now what does political economy call a fair day's wages and a fair day's work. Simply the rate of wages and the length and intensity of a day's work which are determined by competition of employers and employed in the open market. And what are they, when thus determined?

A fair day's wages, under normal conditions, is the sum required to procure to the laborer the means of existence necessary, according to the standard of life of his station and country, to keep himself in working order and to propagate his race. The actual rate of wages, with the fluctuations of trade, may be sometimes above, sometimes below this rate; but, under fair conditions, that rate ought to be the average of all oscillations.

A fair day's work is that length of working day and that intensity of actual work which expends one day's full working power of the workman without encroaching upon his capacity for the same amount of work for the next and following days.

The transaction, then, may be thus described the workman gives to the Capitalist his full day's working power; that is, so much of it as he can give without rendering impossible the continuous repetition of the transaction. In exchange he receives just as much, and no more, of the necesaries of life as is required to keep up the repetition of the same bargain every day. The workman gives as much, the capitalist gives as little, as the nature of the bargain will admit. This is a very peculiar sort of fairness.

But let us look a little deeper into the matter. As, according to political economists, wages and working days are fixed by competition, fairness seems to require that both sides should have the same fair stand on equal terms. But that is not the case. The Capitalist, if he cannot agree with the Laborer, can afford to wait, and live upon his capital. The Workman cannot. He has but wages to live upon, and must therefore take work when, where, and at what terms he can get it. The workman has no fair start. He is fearfully handicapped by hunger. Yet, according to the political economy of the Capitalist class, that is the very pink of fairness.

But this is a mere trifle. The application of mechanical power and machinery to new trades, and the extension and improvements of machinery in trades already subjected to it, keep turning out of work more and more "hands"; and they do so at a far quicker rate than that at which these superseded "hands" can bn absorbed by, and find employment in, the manufacturers of the country. These superse ded "hands" form a real industrial army of reserve for the use of Capital. If trade is bad they may starve, beg, steal, or go to the workhouse; if trade is good they are ready at hand to expand production; and until the very last man, woman, or child of this army of reserve shall have found work—which happens in times of frantic over-production alone—until then will its competition keep down wages, and by its existence alone strengthen the power of Capital in its struggle with labor. In the race with Capital, Labor is not only handicapped, it it has to drag a cannon-ball rivited to its foot. Yet that is fair according to Capitalist political economy.

But let us inquire out of what fund does Capital pay these very fair wages? Out of capital, of course. But capital produces no value. Lobor is, besides the earth, the only source of wealth; capital itself is nothing but the stored-up produce of labor. So that the wages of Labor are paid out of labor, and the workingman is paid out his own produce. According to what we may call common fairness, the wages of the fairness, the wages of the laborer ought to consist in the produce of his labor. But that would not be fair according to political economy. On the contrary, the produce of the workman's labor goes to the Capitalist, and the workman gets out of it no more than the bare necessaries of life. And thus the end of this uncommonly "fair" race of competition is that the produce of those who do work, gets unavoidably accumulated in the hands of those that do not work, and becomes in their hands the most powerful means to enslave the very men who produced it.

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.

The Rev. Heber Newton in a recent sermon presents the following grave considerations:

There are more puzzling factors than privileging legislation at work to handicap Labor. Our century has witnessed a revolutionary change in the character of the industrial system—a change which has been steadily making for Capital against Labor, except in so far as its own excesses have wrought local and partial protest and reaction. The introduction of the system of aggregated Labor in the factory, and the development of the principle of the division of Labor, thus made practicable, have gradually reduced the once free artisan to a new serfdom, in which he is completely at the mercy of Capital, except as by Union he makes resistance. He no longer is master of a craft. He is a bit of a process. He does a fraction of a complete job. Of the rest of the process he knows nothing. Consequently he cannot stand by himself. If he loses his place he cannot set up, in a small way, for himself, even if the general conditions of the business would give him a ghost of a chance. In losing the home work of the artisan of the olden time he loses with it the foothold on the soil, though that soil were but a bit of a garden, which gave him the sense of freedom. He literally has no base for personal independence. He no longer offers his wares, the products of his handicraft, for sale in the market. He has neither the workshop, the tools, nor the knowledge of any complete process by which to make anything himself.

Only large wealth commands the means of production, and only combined Labor supplies the power of production. The workman awaits the offer, on the part of the capitalist of a workshop, of tools and of the fellows who can complete his fractional skill. He has become a part of a gigantic mechanism that is run by Capital. He is utterly, absolutely helpless in himself. He therefore has to enter the "labor market" and offer for sale—no longer his works, but his working. He sells himself. Under what is, with grim sarcasm, called "the system of free contract" he engages on his part to make over to an employer his labor in return for that employer finding him the means and conditions, without which he is no longer able to labor.

A new feudal system is set up, in which, through all the descending gradations, Labor holds its little all by the grace of the feudal lord. It draws the staff of life from its master and suzerain. Of course it is true that under the old home-workshop system there were journeymen who were in a certain sense dependent on the master, for whom the master found the workshop, to whom he paid wages, and whose products he sold; but each man could become a master of his craft and of his tools, and thus of himself. Each man looked forward to becoming a master workman hiring other workmen, an expectation which, while we hear much about its being still a possibility, is becoming increasingly difficult of realization with each fresh turn of the wheel in the evolution of the factory system, and which, to all intents, is practically unrealizable already in most branches of industry.

It is not speaking too strongly to say that such a radical revolution as has thus been wrought in the condition of Labor is without a parallel in the previous history of Christendom, and that it is fraught with dangers of the most ominous kind to society at large. Unarrested or perhaps, let me rather say, led on to no further and higher evolution, in which its present action shall be corrected this system would crush out the free manhood of the workingman.

This factory system has been still further aggravated by the introduction of mechanism and of steam. Increasingly, the labor formerly wrought by man is being done by machinery driven by steam. One after another the processes of every old-time handicraft are being transferred to vast and complicated machines, and production is no longer to be called a manufacture, but a machine-facture. The skill which of old lay in the deft fingers of the craftsman is becoming lodged in steely mechanism. Men become the tenders upon the costly and cunning machine. As such mere tenders, whose work is to feed and wait on the intelligent labors of these giant looms and presses, skilled workmen are no longer requisite. Poorer workmen take their place; women take the place of these inferior men; children at last come into demand in lieu of women. Poor workmen demand less pay than skilled craftsmen, women less than men, and children less than women. Thus wages fall, and a man's foes are they of his own household, very literally. The contrast between the New England operatives of a generation ago and those of to-day is very significant of the change which the factory is steadily working.

Nor is this all of the evil effect of the system. The introduction of mechanism displaces all human labor to an ever-increasing extent. One machine does the work of a host of hands. So these hands are thrown out of employment, and thus as mechanism enters one field of production after another, men retire. Of course this action is mitigated, to some extent, by the opening up of other lines of occupation. The enormous development of industry in our age, and especially in our country, prevents us from feeling the full force of this tendency. But it is working among us at an alarming rate of speed.

Thus, in these various ways, labor suffers severely from the modern mechanical improvements, and from the monster forces which science has broken into these engines. Its work is first robbed of interest and educating power, as already pointed out in the early part of this talk, and then taken from it. The labor market is crowded with the dispossessed "hands", who bid against each other and bid their wages mutually down.

The one beneficent effect of mechanism upon Labor has been the cheapening of goods. Great as this benefit may be, its value seems to me much overrated when we consider the inferior quality of cheap goods, while it is as largely negatived when we note the lowered wages by which it is generally accompanied.

Thus far it is questionable whether Labor has derived any substantial benefit from the marvelous development of mechanism, at all comparable with the injury it has experienced from this revolution. It was fondly hoped, in the dawning of our era of mechanism, that all servile and exhausting toil was to be lifted from man; that all necessities were to be so multiplied that the poor would cease to want, and that leisure and its opportunities of culture would come to be a common blessing, through the immense increase of production, that is to say, of wealth. What a mockery these dreams seem now!

Yet these dreams are clearly no wild fancies. They were true visions of what might be, under any just system of controlling these genii whom science has summoned to the service of man; visions which may come true if ever man becomes their master instead of men—the commonwealth, and not private rich men. In any equitable distribution of the immensely increased wealth which mechanism has created Labor would have been much better off. But it is precisely against such equitable distribution that mechanism has worked.

A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION.

The next Congress of the Federation of Trades should take steps toward a national movement to adopt 8 hours as a day's work, simultaneously by all trades throughout the United States. Probably a date far ahead might be fixed, say May 1, 1886, as the time. This would give ample time for preparation.

I do not look for shorter hours to be permanently fixed in any other manner. To depend on the legislative power to adopt this reform, is to delay, if not defeat it altogether. If one State were to enact such a movement in advance of others, it might handicap the industries of that State to such an extent as to allow an adjoining State to control a larger share of trade by reason of it, and furnish strong argument against shorter hours.

I am opposed on general principles to depending on the ruling class to establish reform when we can do it ourselves. To concede to them a right to pass a law to shorten the hours, is also to concede the right to lengthen them when the interests of wealth demands. If the hours of labor could be sufficiently shortened to absorb the surplus labor and furnish continuous employment, steady wages, and a comparatively equal show in competing with cast-iron laborers run by a belt, I would be a protectionist. I would like to know the views of the local unions of the B. on my proposition to take decided action for eight hours.

G. EDMONSTON.

Oakland, Cal.

At our last election the following officers were duly elected and installed: Pres., E. Engler; Vice Pres., V. P. Wyand; Rec. Sec., Wm. Chalmers; Fin. Sec., F. Galeen; Cor. Sec., R. Stephens; Treas., H. A. Thompson; Conductor, H. Smith; Warden, J. English. After the election was over and the regular routine of business gone through the members of No. 36 marched in a body from their hall to the large spacious dining room of the Golden Gate Hotel on Central Avenue, where a large and splendid repart had been provided. And in justice to the Host I would say that a better display of fruit and floral decorations is seldom seen. After the Brothers had partaken of the good things which had been provided, the Havannas were freely passed around and the goblets filled to the brim. Speech making was next in order, which was responded to by many of our brethren. Bro. Stepens, 4th Vice President, was called upon to respond to a toast which all heartily drank to "Success of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. He said that it was a necessity we have had years of experience; "we have been divided and we are now united; let me ask the question, how is your condition at the present time as compared with your condition of the past? We have an hour more each day with our families and feel better each day to cope with our daily toil, which proves that unity has benefitted our physical condition." After many other lengthy remarks the brothers again drank to the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

Brother Ingeler, the President elect and chairman of the Committee of Arrangements had been doing his duty as Master of Ceremonies. He had been calling all the evening, but the tables had turned and he was loudly called upon which he very ably responded to. He said he had been elected as President of Oakland Union No. 36, and he esteemed it an honor to be elected to such a high and responsible position, and would endeavour to show his appreciation in performing every duty devolving upon him in office.

The hour was now growing late (or, as our wives turned it, early morning), every one was feeling pretty well played out, and the bottles were empty, for all had done justice to them, when Bro. Ingler introduced another large box of cigars.

After every one had provided himself with a smoke and the banquet was about to break up, Bro. Stephens rose to his feet and said he thought that every one had enjoyed the evening's exercise, and while we had drank to many toasts, there was one more which he desired to propose, and he called attention to those who had labored hard in the interest of the Brotherhood, and while distance rolls between us, he desired all to remember that faithful officer P. J. McGuire, and let our parting toast be to the health of that Official, coupled with the name of our General President. Bro. Stephens spoke in such a humourous strain that the Host ordered every bottle and goblet filled, and this very enjoyable evening was brought to a close more than delightful.

R. S.

Murder in Los Angeles, Cal.

On the 20th of July last, as Bro Jas. McIntyre of Union No. 56 was walking through Sonoratown, a portion of this city, inhabited mostly by the native and Mexican element, in company with another carpenter named Hickey, the latter brushed against a chair where a greaser named Silvas was having a discussion with his stomach as to the latter's capacity and liking for mescal and "aguar dieute." The descendant of the bombastic Dons and fiery Chiricahuas, resented this intrusion on his inner light, by jumping in front of both men with an uplifted knife bent on killing these hated gringoes (Americans). McIntyre struck him with his fist, and at this juncture, Hickey left the scene. Just then a companion of Silvas named Higuerra came out of the saloon near by, and as McIntyre was found awhile after laying dead about 100 feet away with 4 knife wounds in his body, two of them being fatal, the presumption is that he was attacked by both, and having nothing to defend himself with but his fists, he succumbed at last a prey to an unwarranted national hatred.

The Union in conjunction with the Knights of Labor took charge of his funeral and he was interred from the old Catholic Mission Church in this city.

On the 2nd day of August Silvas was tried, condemned and sentenced to be hung on the 20th of September, which will be the first legal hanging that has ever taken place here. He will have a companion, Martinez, who murdered an Indian in the Cajon Pass. Higuerra's trial comes on shortly.

Bro. McIntyre was a native of Prince Edward's Island, where his aged parents now reside.

Der Carpenter.

New York, September 1884.

Stückarbeit im Zimmer-Handwerk.

Wenn die Brüderschaft der Carpenter klug ist, wird sie niemals Stückarbeit gestatten: in früheren Jahren war sie der Fluch des Handwerks in hiesiger Stadt. Nichts reducirt die Löhne so sehr auf den Hungerpunkt und nichts verzögert so sehr die Bewegung zur Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit. Brüder, bekämpft die Stückarbeit! (Balt. Labor Free Preß.)

— Die Arbeitsstatistik von Illinois, Massachusetts und anderen Staaten beweist, daß die dem arbeitenden Volke gezahlten Löhne nicht genügen, um Rente zu bezahlen und Lebensmittel zu kaufen. Die Familien würden hungern müssin oder die Landlords würden sie auf die Straße jagen, wenn das Einkommen des Vaters nicht durch die paar Cents vermehrt würde, welche die Kinder verdienen können.

Kurzgefaßter Konventions-Bericht.

Die vierte Jahreskonvention unserer Brüderschaft gehört der Geschichte der Arbeiterbewegung an. 22 Delegaten, als Vertreter von 16 Unions, nahmen an ihr Theil. Der Delegat von der Pacific-Küste, welcher erwartet wurde, legte im letzten Moment seine Stelle nieder. Viele Unions, welche sich nicht vertreten lassen konnten, schickten Zuschriften, in denen sie das bedauerten.

Nach Ernennung der üblichen Komites wurden Glückwunsch Briefe aus verschiedenen Städten verlesen und der an demselben Tage zusammentretenden Konvention der Eisen- und Stahlarbeiter in Pittsburg wurde ein brüderlicher Gruß per Telegraph übermittelt, welcher am nächsten Tage beantwortet wurde.

Die alten Unions waren sämmtlich vertreten und ihre Delegaten behielten während der ganzen Sitzung stets das Interesse des ganzen Gewerks in allen Theilen des Landes, hauptsächlich aber der nicht vertretenen Unions, im Auge.

Die Konvention hätte größer sein können, aber das hätte den Lokal Unions viel Geld gekostet und es war klug gehandelt, daß sie mit ihren Mitteln sparsam zu Werke gingen.

Jede der vertretenen Unionen hatte ihre erfahrensten Leute geschickt, die gereift an Jahren und an Geist, wohl wußten, was sie zu thun hatten.

Was allgemeine Geschicklichkeit, gesundes Urtheil, Voraussicht und parlamentarische Fertigkeit anbetrifft, ist unsere Konvention wohl selten von einer anderen Arbeiterkonvention übertroffen worden. Die Delegaten waren von herzlicher Liberalität und Zuvorkommenheit in ihrem Umgang mit einander erfüllt und die Harmonie wurde auch nicht einen einzigen Augenblick gestört. Mit der Diskussion unbedeutender Dinge, Ordnungsfragen ꝛc. wurde keine Zeit vergeudet. Die Konvention war von hohem Geiste beseelt.

Jeder Delegat schien von dem einzigen Wunsche beseelt zu sein, die Bedürfnisse der Anderen kennen zu lernen; hastige, überstürzte Beschlüsse wurden nicht gefaßt. Jeder Beschluß war sorgfältig erwogen und darauf berechnet, die Gesetze der Organisation zu vervollkommnen und ihre Macht zu erweitern. Deshalb können wir mit gutem Rechte stolz sein auf unsere Konvention.

Ihre Arbeiten sprechen für sich selbst: Sie hat nothwendige Reformen eingeführt, unsere Gesetze wirksamer gemacht und andere, die mit den übrigen in Konflikt oder überflüssig waren, beseitgt.

1. — Sie hat die Jahres-Konventionen beseitigt, welche kostspielig und nutzlos waren, und eine Konvention für alle zwei Jahre vorgeschrieben. Special-Konventionen können einberufen werden, wenn es nöthig ist.

2. — Sie hat den Exekutiv-Board nach einer Stadt verlegt und zwar für den laufenden Termin nach Cleveland, O., dessen Union die Mitglieder wählen soll. Auf diese Weise wird der G. V. den General Sekretär direkt beaufsichtigen, alle Appellationen schneller erledigen und seine Arbeiten wirksamer verrichten können, als wenn er in verschiedenen Städten zerstreut wäre. Dies ist ganz selbstverständlich.

3. — Sie hat vorgeschrieben, daß mehr als eine Union in jeder Stadt gechartert werden kann, wenn Sprache, Farbe oder Entfernung dies bedingen sollten.

4. — Sie hat unsere Strikegesetze vereinfacht und den Resistenz Fond abgeschafft, wodurch kleine Strikes direkt unter die Kontrolle der Unions gestellt werden und sie ordnete an, daß jeder Dollar des Surplus-Fonds im Falle eines allgemeinen Ausstandes disponibel ist.

5. — Sie hat unser Unterstützungs-System reconstruirt; das Sterbegeld von $250 wurde beibehalten; die Unterstützung für Unfälle wurde auf $250 für zweijährige Mitgliedschaft vermehrt und für den Tod der Frau eines Mitgliedes wurden $50 Sterbegeld eingeführt. Die Gesetze für die Einkassirung und Auszahlung dieser Unterstützungssummen sind gründlich revidirt worden und haben jetzt eine vorzügliche Form.

6. — Das Princip der direkten Gesetzgebung durch die Mitglieder für sämmtliche Gesetze ist anerkannt worden und alle diese Aenderungen werden den Unions direkt unterbreitet werden.

Daß die Konvention ihre Arbeiten getreulich und sorgsam vollendet hat, daran ist nicht zu zweifeln und ein gründliches Studium ihres Protokolls, welches in Brochürenform erscheint, wird dies unzweifelhaft beweisen. Laßt uns hoffen, daß die Arbeit die herzliche Zustimmung der Lokal-Unionen erlangen möge.

— **Die einzige Möglichkeit, durch welche die Arbeiter selbst unter den gegenwärtigen ungerechten Verhältnissen ihre Lage körperlich und geistig heben können, ist eine Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit. Weniger Arbeitsstunden bedingt weniger Konkurrenz durch Arbeitslose und mehr Zeit zum Lernen und Nachdenken.**

Die Arbeiter-Bewegung in England.

Mr. Thomas Burt, der Secretär der Kohlengräberunion von Durham und Mitglied des englischen Parlements, erstattete während seines kürzlichen Besuchs in den Ver. Staaten den folgenden Bericht, der einige interessante Aufschlüsse über die Entwickelung der Arbeiterbewegung in England giebt.

„In England haben die Arbeiter eine nationale Organisation, die jährlich ihren Arbeiterkongreß abhält; es ist dies eine Vereinigung aller der verschiedenen Gewerkschaften im ganzen Lande. Diese Föderation richtet ihr Hauptaugenmerk darauf, auf dem Wege der Gesetzgebung die Lage der arbeitenden Klassen zu bessern und durch ihre Bemühungen hat das englische Parlement schon manches Gesetz erlassen, welches von großem Nutzen für die Arbeiter ist.

In früheren Jahren war die Arbeiterbewegung noch schwankend und von geringer Bedeutung; doch heute sind die Gewerkschaften eine selbstgegründete Einrichtung, deren wohlthätiger Einfluß stetig zunimmt. Die meisten dieser Organisationen haben starke Kassen angesammelt. Die beiden Unions in Northumberland und Durham gegenwärtig, trotzdem sie in Zeiten eines schlechten Geschäftsganges Tausende von Pfund Sterling für die Unterstützung arbeitsloser Mitglieder ausgegeben, ein Vermögen von £250,000. In ihren großen Kassen besitzen sie eine Macht, die sie in den Stand setzt, ihre Lage zu verbessern, ohne erst zum Strike ihre Zuflucht nehmen zu müssen. Durch bittere Erfahrung haben die englischen Arbeiter einsehen gelernt, daß die dringendste Nothwendigkeit für jede Organisation eine starke Widerstandskasse ist, und daß fast jeder erfolglos ist, der ohne die nöthigen finanziellen Mittel begonnen wird. Es giebt in England keine einzige Gewerkschaft, die dem Kapital gegenüber Erfolge aufzuweisen hätte, wo die Mitglieder nicht durch regelmäßige Beiträge einen allgemeinen Fond geschaffen hätten. Das Geld wird gewöhnlich in die Hände von vertrauenswürdigen und verantwortlichen Trustees deponirt.

Union-Leute können nicht täglich mit Scabs verkehren, ohne nicht dadurch in moralischer und finanzieller Beziehung geschädigt zu werden. Manche Arbeiter sind zu feig, sich der Union anzuschließen, aus Angst vor den „Bosses." Doch es ist wundervoll, zu beobachten, wie schnell sie ihre Stimmung ändern, sobald die Unionleute sich weigern, mit Scabs zusammen zu arbeiten, und der Boss ihnen dann erklärt, sie müßten entweder der Union beitreten oder den Shop verlassen.

Der Unterschied zwischen einem Scab-Shop und einem Union-Shop ist folgender: In einem Scab-Shop ist Despotismus: der Vormann ist der Herrscher, seine Günstlinge sind die Edelleute, und die übrigen Arbeiter sind das gewöhnliche, unterdrückte Volk. — Ein Union-Shop ist eine Republik. Jeder hat dort gleiche Rechte; jeder erhält dieselbe Bezahlung für dieselbe Arbeit. Keinem wird erlaubt, auf Kosten seiner Mitarbeiter Vortheile zu erhaschen, und Alles geht gleichmäßig und harmonisch zum Nutzen für Arbeitgeber und Arbeitnehmer.

Wenn Arbeitgeber ihren Arbeitern eine Lohnforderung bewilligen, so geschieht dies erstens, weil sie keinen andern Ausweg finden und zweitens, weil die Forderung eine gerechte ist. Es ist darum nicht nöthig, daß man sich in Lobhudeleien über diesen oder jenen Arbeitgeber, weil er Einmal Einsicht gehabt, ergeht und ihm in überschwänglicher Freude Liebeslieder singt; bis zum Millenium sinds noch ein paar gewaltige Schritte. Mehr als das verlangte wird man nie bekommen, und wenn Lohnreduktionen vorgenommen werden, so geht das außer dem üblichen „Wem 's nicht gefällt, der kann gehen" ganz ohne Musik ab.

Die angeborene Bosheit der Carpenter.

Aus dem „Carpenter" erfahren wir, daß ihr Geschäftszweig in jeder Stadt, aus der sie Nachrichten haben, überfüllt sei. In manchen wird flott gearbeitet, aber es sind mehr Leute wie genug da. In sehr vielen Orten sind die Löhne niedrig, weil die Organisation fehlt. Wenn ein Arbeitszweig jemals gehörig aufgerüttelt werden sollte, so ist es derjenige der Carpenters. Weshalb sie im Werke der Organisation so weit zurückstehen, ist ein Geheimniß; oder kommt es vielleicht daher, daß jeder von ihnen bald gerne Boß werden möchte und daß die Union ihn daran verhindern würde? Es ist da irgend etwas faul — was aber?

(John Swinton's Paper.)

Neues von überall her.

De Kalb, Ill.

Bauarbeit gegenwärtig flott; Stadt im schnellen Wachsen. Corporationslöhne durchschnittlich $2.50 pro Tag. Maurer und Steinhauer gesucht: durchschnittlich $4.50 pro Tag.

Oro, Colorado.

Im Winter viel Schnee, wenig zu thun hier. Löhne gut, wenn Einer einen Job bekommen kann; $4 pro Tag, bei 7 Tage Arbeit in der Woche. Sehr viel Bergwerksarbeit hier. Jetzt siehts schlecht aus für Zimmerleute, da der ganze Staat Colorado mit ihnen überfüllt ist.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.

Wir haben unsere Beamten installirt und sind mit bester Aussicht an die Zukunft an's Werk gegangen. Wir sind hier im fernen Westen, aber unser Städtchen ist schön und hat 6000 Einwohner. Ich denke gegen Herbst wird es wachsen. Es sind ungefähr 300 Carpenter hier. Gegenwärtig sind nur wenige arbeitslos. Durchschnittslöhne $3.25 pro Tag. Von Harlina City westlich und nördlich von Buffalo fehlt es an Carpenter Unions.

Austin, Texas.

Während der letzten paar Wochen ging die die Arbeit hier gut, aber jetzt fängt's an flau zu werden. Konkurrenz seitens der Arbeiter sowohl, wie der Bosse hält die Löhne niedrig, weil keine Organisation da ist, um dem Einhalt zu thun. Für 10 Stunden Arbeit werden $2.50 bis $3.50 bezahlt. Wir organisiren eine Union unter den Gesetzen der Brüderschaft.

Morris, Min.

Geschäft sehr flau; wenig Unionleute. Löhne $2 für 10 Stunden. Ziegel kosten $14 per 1000. Gewöhnliches Bauholz $18 per 1000; Siding $28 bis $40 per 1000; Dimensions $19 bis $22 per 1000.

Savannah, Ga.

Unsere Versammlungen werden immer interessanter; neue Mitglieder in jeder Sitzung und ein brüderlicher Geist durchweht die Mitglieder. Das Geschäft geht flau, aber unsere Mitglieder haben Arbeit, da wir für einander sorgen. Wir beziehen hier wahre Bettlerlöhne $1.50 bis $2 pro Tag und viele Arbeiter sind von Augusta, Ga., hierher gekommen und das macht die Lage viel schlimmer. Unsere Union ist unter dem Staatsgesetz inkorporirt.

Ottawa, Canada.

Es scheint nutzlos zu sein, die hiesigen Carpenter organisiren zu wollen. Zweimal haben wir es jetzt versucht und jedesmal ohne Erfolg. Es giebt hier zu viele canadische Scabs und obwohl ich selbst ein Kontraktor bin, trete ich dennoch für die Gewerkschaften ein und wünsche, daß die Arbeiter sich organisiren. Die Arbeit geht flott hier, Löhne $1.50 bis $2 pro Tag von 10 Stunden. Jos. Peterkin.

Allerlei.

— Aus Denver, Col., und ungefähr zwanzig anderen Orten kommt der Ruf: „Sagt den Carpenters, sie sollen von hier wegbleiben." „Die Stadt ist überfüllt." „Das Geschäft geht schlecht."

— Die Carpenters von St. Louis beklagen sich darüber, daß die dortigen Kontraktoren die Stadt dadurch zu überfluthen beabsichtigen, daß sie Carpenters durch die Zeitungen verlangen. Es ist ein alter Schwindel.

— Geschäft flau hier und in Brooklyn. Beide Städte mit Zimmerleuten überfüllt.

— Die Haus Framers Union von hier berichtet flauen Geschäftsgang und Einige arbeiten für $2.25. Die Union Rate ist $3 per Tag.

— Eine allgemeine Reduktion der Arbeitszeit für alle Lohnarbeiter Amerikas, würde denselben sowohl in dem ganzen Lande mehr gut thun, als alle Platformen, welche die politischen Parteien in einem ganzen Jahrhundert annehmen könnten.

— Harter Brothers, New York, Möbelfabrikanten, wollen ihre Arbeitsmannschaft wegen des flauen Geschäftsganges reduciren. Die dort beschäftigten Schreiner hielten sofort eine Versammlung ab und beschlossen, die Arbeitszeit zu reduciren, damit Niemand arbeitslos zu sein brauche. Dies Beispiel sollte in jeder Geschäftsbranche nachgeahmt werden.

Gewerks-Notizen.

— Eine Bewegung zur Abkürzung der Arbeitszeit ist gleichbedeutend mit einer Forderung nach höherem Lohn.

— Politische Aufregung vergeht, aber die Gewerkschaften bleiben bestehen.

— Arbeiter, die Landlords und Kapitalisten verlassen sich auf Euch, ihnen eine Armee und Polizei genug zu stellen, damit sie ihre Rechte wahren und Euch plündern können. Wäre es nicht besser für Euch, wenn Ihr Euch selbst beschützet?

— Thun die Kapitalisten heutzutage irgend etwas Nützliches oder Nothwendiges, was das Volk, wenn es organisirt wäre, nicht ebensogut verrichten könnte?

— Laßt uns, wenn's möglich ist, alle Strikes vermeiden; denn jeder Mißerfolg wird die Organisation auf Jahre hinaus schwächen und entmuthigen. Wenn Beschwerden vorhanden sind, erwäget die möglichen Chancen des Erfolges, bevor Ihr daran denkt, ob auch die Sache gerecht sei, denn nicht die Gerechtigkeit, sondern die Macht gewinnt. Unter allen Umständen denkt daran, daß, um Eure Principien hochhalten zu können, Ihr erst Eure Organisation hochhalten müßt.

(Officielles Organ der Cigarrenmacher.)

— Der Cigarrenmacher Lockout in Cincinnati dauert nun schon 22 Wochen. Von 1166 Mann, welche ausgeschlossen wurden, haben nur 6 die Union verlassen, um Scabs zu werden. Dies beweist eine wunderbare Entschlossenheit in einem Kampfe für eine gerechte Sache.

— Billige Arbeit, das ist's, was China bedeutet, mit seinen Millionen von Armen, seinem künstlich gehinderten Wachsthum und seiner untergeordneten Rasse. Theure Arbeit ist gleichbedeutend mit Amerika und seinen freien und intelligenten Bürgern. Niedrige Löhne vernichten freie Institutionen.

— Die Amalgamated Carpenters haben statistisch bewiesen, daß eine Reduktion der Arbeitszeit in unserem Geschäft eine Wohlthat ist. Indem sie für ihre Mitglieder das Neun-Stunden-System erzwingen, gewinnen sie wöchentlich 107,373 Stunden Ruhe und somit Arbeit für 1992 Personen, die sonst durch ihr Betteln um Arbeit die Löhne herabgedrückt haben würden.

Brüderschafts-Notizen.

— Br. F. E. Rames, Konventionsdelegat von Charleston, S. C., wurde eines Abends in einem Kaffeehaus wegen seiner Hautfarbe insultirt. Die Konvention nahm Indignationsbeschlüsse an und zeigte dadurch, daß die Arbeiterbewegung keinen Rassenunterschied kennt. Daß unsere Feinde das blutige Hemd nicht mehr wiederbeleben können, zeigte sich darin, daß die Beschlüsse hauptsächlich von einem ehemaligen Konföderationssoldaten befürwortet und einstimmig angenommen wurden.

Die folgenden Beamten der Brüderschaft für den laufenden Termin gewählt: General-Präsident Jos. F. Billingsley, Washington D. C.; General-Secretär P. J. McGuire, New York; Vice-Präsidenten R. Stephens, Oakland Cal., W. J. Shiels, Boston Mass., Gus. Brethauer, Cincinnati O., L. F. Rames, Charleston, S. C., G. W. Green, Omaha Neb., Alex. Edgar, Toronto Con., W. F. Eberhardt, Philadelphia, Pa.

Cleveland, Ohio, wurde zum Hauptquartier und Washington, D. C., als der Ort für die nächste Konvention in 1886 bestimmt.

— Die vorgeschlagenen Amendements zu unserer Constitution sind den Local Unionen zur General-Abstimmung vorgelegt worden. Zur Bequemlichkeit aller Mitglieder drucken wir dieselben auf Seite 2 und 3 dieses Blattes ab. Stimmt prompt darüber ab und wartet nicht bis auf den letzten Augenblick, sonst möchte es zu spät sein. Gebt uns die genaue Abstimmung dafür oder dagegen.

— Jede Lokal Union welche unsere geheimen Zeichen ꝛc. und das Reisepaßwort noch nicht kennt, sollte sich an den General-Sekretär wenden.

— Gedruckte Formulare zur Versendung an Mitglieder, welche mit ihren Beiträgen im Rückstande sind, können vom General-Sekretär erlangt werden. Diese Notizen sind ein ausgezeichnetes Mittel, die rückständigen Beiträge einzutreiben.

— Unsere Brüderschaft ist auf dem Princip der Volks-Souveränität — dem Willen der Mitglieder als das oberste Gesetz — begründet und darum hat die Konvention alle Amendements zu unseren Gesetzen einer allgemeinen Abstimmung der Mitglieder unterworfen. Jetzt kann sich keiner mehr beklagen, daß er bei der Verfassung unserer Gesetze keine Stimme hatte.

BLACK LIST.

J. D. McCANN, about 40 or 45 years old, tall, about 5 ft. 10 in., dark hair, with moustache and goatee, talks quick and swears often.

W. H. SHROVE, dark complexion, about 5 ft. 7 or 8 in. high, round shouldered, about 45 years old, eyes a little sore and badly crossed.

Both these parties are expelled from Denver Union No. 55, for violating Art. 9, Sec. 2, and Art. 5, Secs. 4 and 6, of the Constitution, in embezzling monies for ball tickets.

—H. M. CONDRON, 21 Belden Place, Chicago, Ill., is sole agent for the GIANT CLAMP, advertised on this page. He is a member of Union No. 21, and desires to have every local union to establish agencies for this very serviceable clamp. For further particulars address Mr. Condron as above.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Portland, Oregon.

The newly elected officers of Union No. 50 are President, James Sheridan; Vice President, C. C. Overend; Rec. Secretary, J. J Gillis; Cor. Sec'y, Gordon Smart; Fin. Sec'y, A. A. Baker; Treas. William Smart; Trustees, John Maxwell, C. W. Helmer, Chas. Forney.

New Bedford, Mass.

The loom fixers went to work at reduced pay after being out two weeks. Scabs came along and were fast taking their places. In fact, everything seemed to be against them, mills shutting down all over the States brought help here. So now New Bedford is getting to be a poor place—no better than a tramp shop. The weavers were further reduced after the fixers went to work. The mule spinners are to be reduced on the first of September from 10 to 15 per cent. The bosses are boasting in the hotels about how cheap they are getting labor. We wonder what things are coming to!

Leavenworth, Kansas.

The carpenters and joiners of this city held a meeting last Friday night, August 15, and some thirty-nine pledged themselves to form a Protective Union, and instructed me to write to you in regard to procuring a charter from the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

Akron, Ohio.

Some men here think they are too good as workmen to organize with the inferior ones, yet they work side by side with them and are being dragged down by them. There are 150 carpenters in Akron, and there is some talk of a union. Wages are $1.50 to $2.25. About a score get the latter wages.

Muscatine, Iowa.

Trade dull; many carpenters idle; wages $1.75 to $2.00. Building trade stagnant owing to Prohibitory laws.

Lynchburg, Va.

We want a carpenters' union here. Wages average $1.50 per day, and there are 100 good carpenters in Lynchburg, and a good union can be formed.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

We have 30,000 population and about 400 carpenters. Wages are reasonable for first-class hands, but we are being dragged down by a lot of cheap inferior workmen who will work for whatever they can get, and that is from $1.50 to $2.25 per day, while we ask from $2.50 to $3.25 per day. We are at work organizing.

St. Paul, Minn.

There is not a city in the Union where carpenters are paid less than in St. Paul; average wages now is $2.25. Then the cost of living and the loss of time in winter, when compared with other cities, makes the carpenter of St. Paul the poorest paid man in America.

Savannah, Ga.

During the past month we had many new members join us. And now we propose to organize new unions in other cities of Georgia. Trade is very dull; next month promises to be better.

Washington, D. C.

F. W. Ward, proprietor of the Alderney Dairy of this city, has been hiring non union men to build his new depot, now in course of erection, whereupon Carpenters Union No. 1 notified the various unions of the fact, and Mr. Ward was informed that if he did not hire union carpenters, the union men of all trades would boycott his milk. After some time Mr. Ward surrendered unconditionally and declared in favor of the union and paid the initiation fee into our union for the ten men employed on his depot. We are thankful to the organized trades of Washington for their assistance, and we are now preparing to enforce the card system.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52 is still progressing rapidly and has taken a step forward to build unions up in Charleston and to spread the good work all over South Carolina and Georgia, and we have an increase of members every month, and we still have several applications, and all are good men and good workmen.

Business is moderate and nearly all union men are working; average wages from $1.50 to $2.25 per day. Very few of the men getting the latter price and the cost of provisions is very dear. We have also had a pretty favorable summer. All the members and officers of Union No. 52 send greetings to you and all the General Officers for the successful session of the Convention.

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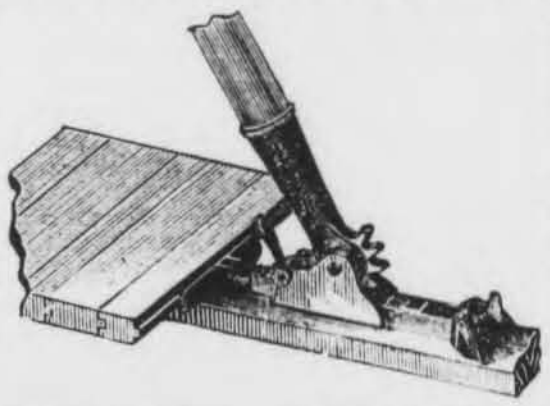

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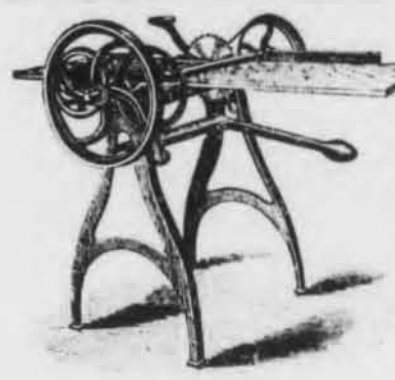
We, the undersigned, are using the Little Giant Clamp and Combination Tool, and can say it has great merit, and we cheerfully indorse all the above statements. W. J. HENDERSON, Treasurer of Local Union No. 21, of Chicago; H. D. CONDRON, member of the Brotherhood, Purchasing Agent for Union No. 21, and sole Agent for Cook County for The Little Giant Clamp and Combination Tool.



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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1884. NUMBER 10.

REMOVAL OF THIS OFFICE.

The office of THE CARPENTER, on and after October 20, 1884, will be located in Cleveland, Ohio. Address all communications for this journal, or for the Brotherhood to P. J. MCGUIRE, Lock Box 180, Cleveland, Ohio.

THE TRIBUNE BOYCOTT NOT SETTLED

The Associated Press report that the New York *Tribune* has surrendered and will employ none but union men is not true. This report, as far as can be known, was sent out by Murat Halstead of the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette*, who is in this city, publishing an evening tender to the New York *Tribune*, and which is known as the New York *Extra*. Mr. Halstead has already experienced a heavy dose of boycotting in Cincinnati in 1881, which forced the *Commercial* and the *Gazette* to consolidate, after the former had got enough of a 15 months boycott and as both papers were so reduced that it took two to make one. And now Mr. Halstead's Cincinnati paper is run on union principles, while he has come on here to New York to run a rat sheet in aid of the *Tribune*.

The facts in regard to the *Tribune* are: Whitelaw Reid and his backers have become tired of being boycotted and they made overtures for a settlement. Typographical Union No. 6 could only settle honorably upon one condition, and that is that the terms of contract made by Reid and broken by him without cause, shall be renewed and made binding. All they ask is that he shall recognize the agreement he made and live up to it in good faith. And so conscious are they of the justice of their cause, that they suggested that the matter might be left to a tribunal of arbitration. To all of this Mr. Reid objected, insisting that he alone should dictate the terms of settlement. This ended all the efforts at negotiation.

Mr. Halstead, in order to aid Reid and take some of the edge off the Boycott against the *Tribune*, sent out the news that the *Tribune* trouble was settled. If is false, and Halstead himself knew it was false when he sent out the report. Meantime the Boycott against the New York *Tribune* will be prosecuted with still greater vigor. And it will be continued until the *Tribune* yields, even if it takes until long after election.

OUR LETTER FROM GERMANY.

BERLIN, Sept. 20. 1884.—The strike of the Joiners in Hanover, which lasted nearly three months, has ended in a victory for the men. The agreement between the bosses and the men is in favor of ten hours work per day, instead of eleven, extra pay for overtime and Sunday work, an advance of 17 per cent. in wages, and full payment of wages every week.—The strike of the Joiners in Berlin is likely to break out soon again, as the bosses are not satisfied with having had to concede the 9½ hours as a day's work.—The Bookbinders of Berlin are out for higher wages and nine hours, and have secured it from some bosses.—The trades union movement in Berlin is assuming giant proportions and an unparalleled activity. no less than 16 public labor meetings being held one night lately.—In Kiel the carpenters struck and won the ten-hour system where they formerly worked eleven.—In Duesseldorf the Carpenters-Union demanded [illegible] cent. advance in wages and a re[illegible] the hours of labor from 10[illegible]urs. And they joined [illegible]

THE FATAL MISTAKE OF NEW UNIONS.

A fatal mistake too often indulged in by many of the newly formed labor associations is that their first mission is to undergo their "baptism of fire" by indulging in the luxury of a strike. This fallacy has disrupted more organizations than any agency with which we are acquainted. If ever there is a time when caution and conservatism are required, it is during the first year of their existence. Lacking discipline, experience and cohesion, which time alone begets, such strikes but lead to the inevitable—defeat; demoralization ensues, and, as a matter of course, the organization goes to the dogs. Now, we insist that in all well-regulated trade unions strikes should be shunned until every honorable method to avoid them has been exhausted; and as an evidence that this opinion is widely shared we find that among the most experienced and powerful associations they are interdicted until the merits of the controversy have been submitted to and digested by a majority of the branch organizations. This is as it should be, and wherever tested has redounded to the interests alike of employer and employe. We do not claim that all strikes could have been avoided by the adoption of such a course, but we do claim that a large majority of the strikes of the past, which have brought ruin to the capitalist and misery to the workman, could have been avoided by a friendly interview and mutual concessions; and that the man or organization which tries to thwart an amicable settlement in this emergency, under the specious pretense that such action would flavor of cowardice, is an enemy alike to trades unions and society at large. If the demands are justifiable, their submission to and indorsement by their fellow craftsmen, who are ready and willing to furnish the sinews of war, will but strengthen their position, and employers will think twice before, under such circumstances, they will refuse to meet their employes half way. If the demands are unwarrantable, or so declared by an impartial tribunal, they have certainly no reason to grumble if employers take a similar view.—*Chicago Inland Printer*.

PRACTICAL WORKMEN.

No man can be said to be a practical workman unless he thoroughly understands the theory as well as the practice of his employment. Some men are content in the simple accomplishment of results without endeavoring to study the why's and wherefore's which lead to their production. Some workers accept without investigation the formulas of their trade, and do not aspire to a knowledge of the principles upon which these formulas rest. They may be very good artisans in their way; they may, so far as their immediate tasks are concerned, be excellent workmen, but it is needless to say that they are not composed of the material which makes the great, the rising, and progressive spirits of the age.—*The Wood-Worker*.

—Bro. Jas. J. Blakie, one of the charter members of Los Angeles Union No. 56, died Sept. 13, 1884, at 1.20 P.M. from injuries received by a fall of 32 feet from a scaffold while engaged in the business of carpentry. He was buried on the 14th inst. with a good turn out of the Brotherhood. He died in very limited circumstances and left a wife and two children in want. No. 56 paid the expense of a nurse one week and physician's attendance, but as the union was not yet six months in the Brotherhood, there can be no claim for death benefit.

NEW YORK STONECUTTERS AND BRICKLAYERS ON STRIKE.

The general success of the bricklayers and laborers' strike in New York for the enforcement of the nine-hour rule has led to a flank movement by the Boss Builders' Association, which may have the effect of completely paralyzing work in the building trades of this city and throwing thousands of men out of employment. At the beginning of the strike of the bricklayers and laborers the stonecutters of this city were among the first to contribute to the support of the bricklayers. The Boss Stonecutters' Association was therefore asked by certain members of the Boss Masons and Builders' Association to force their employees to withdraw their support from the striking bricklayers and laborers. The Boss Stonecutters' Association notified their employees that unless they withdrew all support from the striking bricklayers and laborers they would be locked out. The stonecutters refused to comply with this order and have gone on strike, in order to not give the employers an opportunity to lock them out, and also to force the employers to forego their demand.

This is the first strike of the stonecutters since 1870, when they gained the 8 hours and ever since then have maintained it. They now have an organization second to none in the country, with every stonecutter in the union and a large treasury at their back. The bosses on the other hand have a combination with the quarrymen to not supply stone to any only members of the Master Stonecutters' Association.

If the strike of the stonecutters continues for a few weeks, thousands of carpenters, bricklayers, stone masons, laborers and workmen on other branches of the building trades will be out of employment. It is not expected, however, that the strike will be long continued, as the boss stonecutters, it is said, are not in the position to hold out. No matter how it ends, the carpenter trade in this city is overstocked with men.

A WARNING FROM TEXAS.

It is with pleasure that I undertake to give warning to the Brotherhood through our own paper, *The Carpenter*. I feel proud that we have at last a paper that belongs to the laboring men of this country out of the control of interested capital. We have suffered long enough by false reports of the demand for labor by interested capital. And to give warning to the Brotherhood against any and all such reports in the Southwest is the aim of this article. From various causes the staple crops of this country are a failure, *viz.:* cotton and cattle, hence no money in circulation, empty houses and no demand for carpenters or labor of any kind. The streets are full of unemployed men and pawnshops full of carpenters' tools. This bids fair to be a disastrous winter here for labor, and what is true of this place is applicable to almost the entire State. There is a surplus of labor in moderately good times here, and depressed times mean distress. Please give this warning to the Brotherhood that its members may not be deluded here. J. M. TAYLOR.

Dallas, Texas.

—Men of labor, listen to our warning: Before the nomination of the Presidential candidates, and since, we have urged the wage-workers to keep their Unions free from all political party strife. It is of more importance that the Unions shall [illegible] than that any man [illegible] elected

TRADE NOTES.

—Philadelphia Union No. 8 has not lost sight of the short-hour movement and is as actively at work as ever on that point.

—The Cincinnati Cigarmakers are still manfully holding out, and there is not the faintest sign of weakening, although now in the seventh month of the lockout.

Report of Amalgamated Carpenters for September shows the condition of trade is bad in Great Britain and the Colonies, and in Bradford, England there was a partial strike. The society has 415 branches, 24,428 members, 748 on unemployed benefit, 517 on sick benefit and 116 superannuated.

—Revolutions are not forced from below, but are the bitter fruit of poverty, misery and ignorance intensified and rendered desperate by wasteful affluence, cynical indifference. and shameless greed above.—*London Justice*.

—While the population of this country doubled in the last thirty years, the number of insane, imbecile, blind and deaf has increased fivefold. In the year 1830 there were eight insane asylums in the United States; there are now over ninety. This is the natural product of the system that produces poverty and overwork on the one hand and luxury and speculation on the other.

—In Bradford, England, the strike of the carpenters for 7½ pence per hour after six weeks was compromised with the bosses on 7 pence per hour.

—A carpenter who has lately emigrated to Sydney, Australia, writes: Hundreds of men of all trades are wandering the streets hungry, and there is very little prospect of work. The carpenter trade is prostrate entirely.

—The German American Typographia Bund pays $5 per week sick benefit, $200 death benefit, and $25 on death of wife, $7 per week strike benefit and $5 per week unemployed benefit. The dues of a member are 25 cents per week and a tax of 25 cents upon the death of a member. The local unions pay a *capita* tax of 25 cents per month to headquarters, and have the system of equalization of funds.

—A correspondent in Dallas, Texas, warns men from going to the South West, as it is overcrowded, and wages low and cost of living high.

—Des Moines, Iowa, Union No. 38 is growing wonderfully—and we will so[illegible] have a union of colored carpenters in P[illegible]sacola, Fla.

—Philadelphia Union No. 8 has elec[illegible] James Dey as Walking Delegate. An[illegible] 3 weeks he has got many new memb[illegible] established a labor bureau, which has ke[illegible] our members to work; he has got many dollars back dues.

—A difference between the Amalgamat[illegible] Carpenters and our Brotherhood has cured in Baltimore and San Franci[illegible] owing to the fact that in those cities unions strike against non union men a[illegible] enforce the card system. The Amalgamated have a rule that forbids their members from joining any other society of carpenters. This has caused the trouble a[illegible] the rule is likely to be rescinded so as [illegible] produce harmony.

—[illegible] work on the new Go[illegible] Pens[illegible] being in Washing[illegible] beli[illegible]arneymen [illegible] the conte[illegible] scene art of handling a few

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post-Office in New York, as second-class matter.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1884.

Published in the *National Labor Tribune*.

A CALL.

To the seemingly satisfied and heedless men whose dissensions from the ranks of labor unionists, and slavish grovelling to bossism, cripple the efforts of the manly in their battle for Labor's rights.

What are ye? Slaves, or coward knaves,
Who dare not strive to gain
A freeman's right with those that fight
That just claim to obtain,
While onward still, with potent will,
Proceeds the swelling tide,
Why do you shirk the noble work
And meanly stand aside?

Perceive your lands in alien hands!
Behold the rights ye claim
Ignored with scorn by tyrants born
Of plunder and ill-fame.
See every art used to impart
New luxury to wealth,
And every rule construed to school
The monopolist in strength.

The lordly thieves whose art deceives
The simple-minded slave;
Whose sole desire is to acquire
The gifts that nature gave
To toiling hands, still towering stands,
Proud o'er the abject thrall,
With stern command and scourging hand
And will to engross all.

Why should ye toil through life's turmoil
That others may possess
The wealth ye earn and proudly spurn
The poorest in distress?
Why should their brood in plenitude
Of all that earth can give
Rejoice, while ye are hardly free
To say ye've right to live,

The greedy hordes of grabbing lords
In luxury can swim —
Their mansions stand upon the land,
Illustrations grim:
The unjust need of selfish greed
Of each engrossing knave,
That still must rule the heedless fool
And satiable slave.

Then shall ye still uphold the ill
That makes mean serfs of all,
Whose honest hands enrich the lands
And form the rampart wall?
Or shall we now make solemn vow,
In unity agreed,
The fight to sustain until ye gain
A toiler's honest meed.

Awake! awake! the trammels break
From your willingly fettered hands;
Up from the mire of slavish hire
Speak forth your just demands.
From South to North your cry send forth,
No longer slaves we'll be;
From East to West your stern behest —
We shall, we must be free.

WILLIAM MULLEN,
BRIDGEPORT, Pa.

BRO. WHITESIDE'S UNDERTAKING.

Bro. J. K. Whiteside, formerly of Indianapolis, Ind., is now resident in Chanute, Kansas. He writes that although busy at the trade, in his leisure hours he is now engaged in preparing a panoramic display and exhibit of industry and its advancement. He desires to have the emblem of our Brotherhood made of wood by some one of our best workmen, and finished in the highest style of the craft. The dimensions of it to be 2 feet long and 20 inches wide. His object is to be able to give a graphic account of the history of our Brotherhood. Those who desire to make a gift of the work can address this office before beginning the job.

Bro. Whiteside has had sent to him recently a picture drawn by a lady, of a Kansas stable and one of the first houses that was built in Kansas, the lower part of the door hinge works in the ground and the top in a boot sole. He will have a picture of the house of the Bender family; it is near Chanute. He also desires a copy of every labor paper that is printed, and the date of the first issue.

ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

The trouble with some Trades Union men (and they are not a few) is that when times are good and things run smoothly they stay away from the meetings of their respective Unions and never look ahead, but expect, when trouble comes, to be able to fall into line and carry things with a hurrah. They never look beyond the ends of their noses, but, mark you, some day will wish they had. Attend the meetings of your union; keep the line firm and unbroken, and when capital charges upon you there will be no trouble in repelling the enemy. "In time of peace prepare for war."—*Trenton Daily Advertiser.*

AN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR COLORED PEOPLE.

The Carpenter is on file in our reading room and we appreciate it very much. In visiting the Colleges and Schools in the South for colored people I found that everything was being done to give the colored youth a classical education, while there is not an apprentice to be found in the work-shops of the South. If I wanted to get a good job of work done by a colored mechanic, I must seek one who learned his trade in slave time. I said to myself, this will not do; if the carpenters' trade is to be followed here by such as work a few weeks carrying lumber and then get a saw and hatchet and call themselves carpenters, those who are true mechanics and the like are in a bad condition. And I determined to open a way by which those who desired may obtain a trade. I, therefore, started in Atlanta, Ga., in November, 1880, the first School of Carpentry ever opened for the colored people. I take the young men in classes of about 10 each, beginning by giving to each a saw, square and knife, let them square and saw one half inch off at a time trying square on board each time until they can saw true and square repeatedly. I then give them a piece of board and a jointer, have them joint the edge straight and then a second piece, and have them make a good joint of the two edges And so on until they learn the use of all the necessary tools in carpentry. As we have opportunities we take contracts, and with the students do all the work, even build the foundation of brick with them, do the painting, build the stairs, do all the scroll work and turning.

I teach the advanced students, say those who have been two years in my school, to draw plans, make out bills of lumber and specifications. I graduate these students in four years, when they are able to draw plans and execute the work on nearly any kind of frame and brick buildings. I teach them to frame, make difficult joints, dovetails, &c., also to turn and use scroll saws. I provide an engine, 3 laths, scroll saw, bench saw and set of tools for each student and special tools for general work.

Having got the school in Atlanta well going, I accepted an invitation to come to Marion, Ala., and start one. Our school is well supplied with tools and will open next Monday.

I served my apprenticeship in New Jersey.

Very truly yours,
Z. T. SPENCER,
Superintendent, Industrial School, Lincoln University.
MARION, ALA., Sept. 22, 1884.

THE WORKMAN'S CONDITION OF LIFE.

I have read a great deal about the law-abiding moneyed man. Now, I think, that instead of being law-abiding he is just the opposite, for he does more to raise the devil in the minds of the working classes than all others put together. The majority of us poor devils just about get enough to live on; as for getting enough to support us in old age it is almost out of the question, and what little we do get is almost like trying to get blood out of a stone, for a man is hunted about just like a slave. In fact, the only difference that I know of is that you are allowed to go home at night and receive a little money on Saturday, which little would be a good deal less if bosses had all their own way, though they seem to have it. Now, all this competition and cut-throat business might be avoided if people would only exercise more of that virtue called charity. We want to live and live comfortably, not to be continually at war with each other as we are now. We might just as well have a lot of savages let loose on us as live the way we live now; it would be more consistent and would not be so hypocritical. What is the use of money at all if we can't get enough to live on. We don't want to be millionaires but we want enough so as not to be continually thinking about where we shall get our next meal. Some think it is the will of God. I think it is nothing of the sort but the will of your 19th century capitalist who is continually grinding, and the more he gets the more he grinds, protected by the law as he is. But there may be a time when he will get more law than he wants.

An Unfortunate Carpenter.

—Toledo Union No. 25 and Washington Union No, 1, voted to instruct our delegates to the Federation Congress in favor of Bro. G. Edmonston's Eight Hour Proposition.

THE OBJECTS OF OUR BROTHERHOOD.

AS EXPLAINED AT A MEETING IN ROCHESTER, N. Y.

In spite of the intense heat last evening the rooms of the Bricklayers' and Plasterers' union in the city building on Front street were comfortably filled with carpenters and joiners to listen to P. J. McGuire, of New York. Mr. McGuire is general secretary of the North American association of Carpenters and Joiners, and is in this city to organize a local branch of that association. Adam Harold, the president of the local union, introduced the speaker in a few fitting remarks. Mr. McGuire's remarks were listened to attentively throughout. He said, the organization was formed in Chicago three years ago last August Eleven cities were represented by delegates and a constitution adopted. From that time to this the association has been steadily growing until at present it has branches all over the United States States and Canada. Thorough organization is necessary to success in trades unions, and lack of organization is what has caused the decay and failure of so many associations of this kind. The Brotherhood has benevolent as well as protective features, and this is one of the secrets of its strength. Two hundred and fifty dollars is paid on the death of any brother and from $100 to $250 for disability. The object of the Brotherhood is to avoid rather than encourage strikes, and if a strike is positively necessary, it is the rule with the union to hold out until its demands are granted. He urged upon his hearers the necessity of organization, not only for their own benefit but as a means of cultivating a higher public appreciation of skilled work. "If," said the speaker, "We can not protect our own trade the employers will hardly be liable to protect it for us. There are many good employers in this trade, many who are fair and honorable, but they cannot compete with skinflint contractors with their poor material and poor workmen. Our organization is designed to protect the interests of every fair employer in the trade, while at the same time it protects our interests. It is the aim of our Order to teach the public that dear work is the cheapest work, that the building constructed by good workmen with good material is better and cheaper than the poorly constructed building. In the former are seen skill and honesty; in the latter there is exhibited poor design, poor taste, and poor economy. In such an organization as this, destined to foster and protect skilled labor, the public should be interested, because it encourages higher art in the trade and benefits the people. All mechanics depend more or less upon the skill of the carpenter for the excellence of their own work, hence the necessity of training, of organizing for a comparison of ideas and methods that will lead to perfect work. If we as carpenters uphold our organization we encourage a love for better work among ourselves, and better work brings better pay. When you find a body of men who are proud of their trade, you will find them well paid. Those not proud of their work, who work merely for the day's pay and receive but low wages, are the ones who want to get into easy positions to escape the trade. We want carpenters to organize so that the increased wages derived from organization will enable them to procure architectural works, to study, to learn better methods. When they are poorly paid they cannot do this. This organization is not formed to oppose in any way our employers."

He spoke in favor of the reduction of the hours of labor, asserting that a reduction would give more men employment and tend to increase wages.—*Rochester Express*, Sept. 5.

MEXICAN CARPENTERS.

A carpenter in Central Mexico earns from 60 to 75 cents a day; a mason the same; a common day-laborer from 25 to 50 cents; a farm laborer who works by the month, from $2 to $5 a month and found. They work from daylight until sunset, with half an hour at 9 o'clock and again at 3, for breakfast and supper. These hours are very long, but they take it easy, stopping every little while to smoke their cigarros, and accomplishing less than an American laborer will in six or seven hours' work. Their earnings are barely sufficient to keep them in food and clothes of the coarsest kind, with an occasional "real" over for the bull-fight at Pulke. This is something similar to the condition that the moneyed men of this country would like to reduce the workers.

THE AMALGAMATED CARPENT... THEIR RELATIONS TO O... BROTHERHOOD.

There is a rule in the "Amalgamat... Society of Carpenters," which prevents t... members from joining any other socie... or union of the trade. Owing to this co... siderable trouble has been caused in S... Francisco, Baltimore, and a few oth... cities wherever our unions have attempte... to enforce the card system and trade rule... The Amalgamated insist that their me... bers shall not join our Brotherhood, n... any other society of carpenters, while on... this score our Brotherhood is liberal... enough to allow its members to join the... Amalgamated or any other society of car... penters as well as ours. We believe that... carpenters should be bound by the rules of... the majority of the trade no matter what... may be the society making them, as long as... it is composed of journeymen ca... and if the men wish to come to ou... to make them and to be in harmon... rest of the trade; we can see no re... grounds of objection. This que... become so important as to pr... following action in the San ... Branch of the Amalgamated:

"That, in the opinion of this branch, it is ... desirable, for the best interests of members of ... society, and also of those on this coast, that t... portion of Rule 6, clause 2, which prohibits a... member from joining another trade society, be ... pealed."

In support of this opinion of our request, t... society known as the "Brotherhood of Carpente... and Joiners of America" have upwards of a tho... sand or more members of good standing in th... city, and a proportionate number in the cities o... this coast, as against our number of 36, which in... cludes, as far as our knowledge, the entire num... ber of our members in the Pacific States, and, ... consequence of their overwhelming majority, th... have the power to make trade rules, in San Fra... cisco and the Pacific Slope generally, which ou... members are compelled to submit to without ha... ing a voice in the framing of such rules, as the... would do were they also members of that society...

We would further state that in consequence of ... considerable number of the Brotherhood bei... desirous of our joining them, who manifest an u... friendly and somewhat hostile disposition towar... us because we are not allowed to join them—o... members of the "Amalgamated Society" are oft... placed at great advantage when seeking emplo... ment, which entails a consequent financial loss ... our society. We would, therefore, petition th... A. D. C. to have this resolution placed before th... G. C. at its next meeting, and to use its influen... towards securing the desired privilege to t... members of the "Amalgamated Society of Carp... ters and Joiners" on this coast and elsewher... We would remind the A. D. C. of the great diff... ence of the amount of dues payable to the respe... ive societies, viz.: Amalgamated, $1.40 per mont... Brotherhood, 25 cents per month, which forms a... of the principal reasons of so comparatively fe... joining our society, and to the fact that a v... different state of affairs exists in this country n... than when Rule 6 was framed,

In Virginia City, Nevada, and other places ... trade unions exist that all mechanics have to j... in order to obtain employment."

We trust that this rule may be so mod... fied as to prevent any further controver... on the subject. We desire, on our side, t... preserve the most fraternal relations wi... the Amalgamated, as we do with all oth... labor bodies.

—The Amalgamated Trades Unions ... Halifax, Nova Scotia, have been succes... ful in their boycott of the Halifax Daily ... *Herald*, and it has now become a unio... office. The unions of that city sinc... Sept. 12, are boycotting Messrs. Moir, Sc... & Co., Bakers, of that city, for employin... their men from 15 to 18 hours per day... They demand that Moir, Son & Co. sha... comply with the 10 hour rule; the firm ... employs a large number of men. We wis... the boycott every success.

—The New York stonecutters are o... strike because their bosses demanded tha... they should not help the Bricklayers ... their nine-hour strike. The Bricklaye... have won on all jobs except three and it ... likely that the Stonecutter bosses w... soon have to give in. The Stonecutte... have had no strike since 1870, when th... won the 8 hours, and have kept it ev... since and now have a good union—not ... man in the trade is outside of it, and th... have $70,000 in their treasury.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Trade dull, many out ... work, union men work 59 hours per wee... scabs work 60. There is a grea... piece work in the French quarter, ... earn at it from 50 cents to $2 per ... German branches are picking up, ... 2 German branches, and 2 English b... in the city—one North and another So... and a Bohemian branch, our union wil... well. But we must get rid of all the cr... Johann Most shouters, for they only ... to use our union for their propagan... else destroy it.

LABOR IN THE DAYS OF YORE AND LABOR TO DAY.

At a public mass meeting of Carpenters Union 55, Denver, Col., in the City Hall, Aug. 20, 1884. Mr. J. B. Stuart was the principal speaker. His address was a masterly effort and owing to our limited space, we can reproduce here only a few extracts:

Looking into the laws of England, as early as 1360, we find labor laws or laws by which the wages of carpenters and others were fixed, and provisions to the effect that they might be jailed if they did not work for those prices. They also appeared, even at that early day, to have associations or societies of carpenters, for the law strictly prohibited them. It also provided that a carpenter leaving his work and going to another town might be arrested and imprisoned and upon the judgment of the justice he might be burnt in the forehead with the letter "F" in token of his falsity to his master.

What think you of a law that forbids any man or woman laborer departing from one hundred into another without bearing express permission therefor under the king's seal.

In 1423 we find the old law remodelled. The justices were allowed to fix the prices for which a carpenter should work and we again find strict provisions against what is called the "annual congregations and confederacies of laborers."

In 1514 another statute was passed regulating the wages to be paid carpenters and others and fixing the hours of work, and even the time to be given to the summer day sleep of the laborer.

In 1530 we find a very severe statute against indolent carpenters. It provides that these derelict individuals might be whipped until, in the language of the statute, "his body be bloody by reason of such whipping." If he still refused to work, the upper part of the gristle of the right ear was to be cut off, and if he still refused to work, he was to be executed as a felon.

Still later, by a statute, a carpenter or laborer who loitered or wandered about, might, on conviction, be branded with the letter "V" (for vagrant I suppose), or if he should run away from his master he might, upon the judgment of the justices, be branded with the letter "S" on his forehead or the ball of his cheek, and be adjudged to be the master's slave for life.

The masters of these slaves were authorized to put a ring of iron about their neck or leg to prevent them from running away.

In 1562 the law was again changed. By this statute the justices were to fix the wages of carpenters and other laborers annually. It appears that about this time the unmarried women began to dislike work, for the statute provides, the justices might direct all single women between the ages of 12 and 40 years as to the labor they should do, and if they did not do it, put them in jail.

From this time on labor began to disenthrall itself and finally all penalties were dropped from the statute and employer and employe left to action for breach of contract.

Some of the more recent acts of parliament evince a very high regard for laborers. To-day we find laws prohibiting the placing of children at slavish labor, and providing for their schooling.

Very strict laws are in force as to the working of mines and the protecting of laborers from dangerous machinery Laws are even enacted providing that the master shall furnish comfortable dwellings in certain instances and strict laws are found enforcing the payment of wages in cash.

We daily hear courts in this country instructing juries under old English common law that an employe cannot recover from the employer on account of injuries received through the negligence of a fellow workman. Recent statutes in England have so modified this doctrine that the merest skeleton remains.

In the manufacturing districts of France and Belgium all disputes between the employer and the employe as regards wages are referred to a council composed of an equal number of employers and employes. An appeal may be had from this committee to the courts. About the same law exists in Austria.

The great corporate influences that control your legislation have not given to the ...ights of the workin... ...ss that recognition that they have ... ...ved even in kingdom countries. This influence has perverted every branch of your government. Legislature dares to face and contend ... Unless an antidote be found its poison must bring death to the interests of the producer.

I am not here to assail a class simply because they have wealth. I hope I may never stoop so low as to deal with that kind of argument, which I deem unworthy to fall from the lips of an American citizen. But I know and you know that there is dishonest wealth in this land. This kind of wealth never cost the possessor a single dollar in value. Its possession was gained by wrongs practiced upon those that did produce it. I may be wrong, but if so I hope I shall be pardoned in saying that I have no respect for the men or the means by which they obtain it. They and their practices are deadly enemies to the institutions of this country.

The capitalist rides home to his mansion on the hill with his span of high steppers; there is found wealth and comfort in profusion. The man that stands before his broiling furnace, with brawny bare breast and arms, wends his way home and meets his children coming in from the factories, that should have been at shool; and then in a house of one or two rooms are found six or eight of a family.

Four hundred millionaries in one city, that have made their money simply by gathering the cream from labor, repair to church and drop their pennies into the missionary box to send the gospel to the heathen. And while the church bells are still chiming, five hundred mothers kneel in garrets, by the bedside of sick, hungry and dying children, and plead with a merciful father to open his gates and let their babies in.

THE NECESSITY OF PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

It is generally conceded by reasonable employers that workingmen are entitled to an increase of wages during the prosperous period of industry, while all employers, with but rare exceptions, insist upon a reduction of wages at the commencement of the dull season.

That stagnant and prosperous periods of trade repeat themselves in regular intervals from ten to twelve years, can hardly be denied any longer by anybody who has the slightest power of observation.

The industrial world rises and falls, leading the labor movement to advances and retreats.

The question when to advance and when to retreat can only be studied by carefully looking into the experience of the past. Upon the accurate knowledge of this phenomena depends the success of every labor organization.

Without permanent organization the workingmen cannot know when to advance for better conditions, much less when to retreat. This we have seen in 1879-1880: mills and factories working overtime; but only a few trades demanded an increase of wages. The workingmen, unorganized and discouraged from a long period of stagnation, did not dare to take advantage of the change in the situation, and thereby lost millions of dollars in wages.

What the cigar makers have lost each local union could easily reduce to a handsome amount. We can safely say the cigar makers lost through neglect of maintaining their local unions during the last period of stagnation and panic at least $5,000,000 in wages. Three years of prosperity have been lost which cannot be regained.

But the workingmen who could not see when trade was booming, was not apt to see when trade is falling. Thus we find at the first period labor has a lack of confidence in its own strength, while at the second period it is overestimating its power, and rushes headlong into strikes which are bound to be disastrous in the majority of cases.

Shall the experience of the past be lost? Remember that, although trade looks favorable at present, we stand upon a volcano whose eruptions are threatening destruction in its path. If you want to save yourself prepare for emergencies.—*Cigar Makers' Journal.*

—"As it is now, the product of labor is distributed in an almost inverse ratio, those getting the largest share who never worked any. The next largest part falls to those whose work is, so to say, only nominal, the compensation for work decreasing in the ratio as the work becomes harder and more disagreeable, until at last the most ... physical labor ... on gaining even ... of existence ... children to mourn his death, ... sympathy of Union No. 18. "Truly, ... of life we are in death."

... James Amess has been placed in the position of Cor. Sec., and Bro. Hancock as Fin. Sec.

WHAT WE BELEIVE IN.

The following logical and admirable document is from the pen of Bro. C. C. Griffin, of Englewood Union 60, and was adopted by our convention and ordered printed in our Journal:

We hold it proper that every organization that asks the support of mankind, should declare its principles and objects, as fast as growing intelligence enables it do define them; and, therefore, among the principles we hold are:

1. That, as the average laboring man expends his entire earnings immediately, every dollar added to his wages adds to every market he patronizes; and, therefore, that every reduction of wages immediately cripples all markets to just the extent of the reduction.

2. We hold a reduction of hours for a days work increases the intelligence and happiness of the laborer, and also increases the demand for labor, and the price of a days work.

3. We hold that, as nineteen-twentieths of all production in the United States is consumed at home, it is ruinous to reduce domestic wages to enable our country to compete with foreign markets; that is, it is ruinous to reduce a nineteen dollar market for the purpose o gaining a one dollar market, as is the case, because the wages of the wage-workers makes more than half of our entire market.

4. We hold that reducing wages for the porpose of underselling foreign markets, induces foreign countries to do the same; and that the principle is a pitting of one country against another in the art of starvation and depravity. That as the laboring classes are uniting all over the world regardless of national lines, it is the moral duty of all, and to the interest of all, to stop this ruinous competition between nations. We hold that competition, for the purpose of reducing wages, is no less ruinous because it is international.

5. We hold that every person, company, corporation or pool of corporations, that lends aid to reduce wages from any standard is a ruinous monopolist; and if allowed to continue such reduction, would ruin all markets, and enslave all labor and bring the country into the condition of other cheap labor impoverished countries.

6. We hold that all protected industries are protected at the expense of citizens, and that such industries have no moral right, and should have no legal right to employ foreign labor, or persons who send or carry their earnings out of the country. That all aliens should be employed only by self-sustaining industries, and not by those receiving support by tax upon citizens.

7. That protected industries should have no legal right to reduce or aid in reducing wages from any standard.

8. We object to prison contract labor because it puts the criminal in competition against honorable labor for the purpose of cutting down wages; and, also, because it helps overstock the labor market.

9. We hold that voting is better than striking, but that both are right and necessary, and that no wage-worker should vote for any man or any party that does not directly support the labor cause by thought, argument and action. Nor should any wage-worker vote for any man or party that has, does or will foster any wage-reducing monopoly.

THE NINE HOUR MOVEMENT.

If, thirty or forty years ago, ten hours work for each laborer was enough to support the world in comfort, surely now, with the many labor-saving inventions introduced since that time, nine or even less than nine hours' work per day ought to produce equal results.

If labor saving machinery is to prove a blessing to the world, it ought to enable the toiler to earn the necessaries and comforts of life for himself and family by less hours of toil, and give him more time for recreation and self improvement. If all the advantages of improved machinery are to go to capital, to help build up collossal fortunes, far beyond the possible needs of the owner, while the laborer toils on as before, then the great inventions of late years are, to say the least, doubtful blessings.

The carpenters and joiners of Los Angeles are meeting this question in the proper spirit—not by strikes, but by reason—and when they have gained this one more hour out of twenty-four, if they use it rationally, not in dissipation and rioting, but in the improvement of their minds and bodies, it will prove, in the end, not only a blessing to themselves and families, but an advantage to their employers; for with more vigorous health and increased intelligence, it is safe to assume they will render equally as valuable if not more valuable service in the smaller number of hours than would be rendered by less intelligent labor in the greater number.—*Los Angeles Western Wave.*

—The Federation of ...rades, Washington, D. C., in the interest of the Coopers' Union of that city has boycotted all brands of flour made by Herr & Cissel and D. F. Robinson, Georgetown, D. C. The brands of flour are: The Herrwood. The Budapest, The Cooks' Del... Best Family Flour, Th... cess, The Delightful F... Me," &c., The Rising ... this boycott is that ... *hand* and old barrels ... barrels which have b... roost in. This throws ... and those few they do employ are paid boy's wages.

—Attend your meetings, be prompt in paying your dues, and get new members. It is your interest as Union men to do so. You can't expect help from any one only yourselves. Work to make your unions a power, and then your bosses will fear and respect you.

—Boycott the New York *Tribune* and all who support or aid it in any way.

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These Tool Holders are of great value to every mechanic. They hold perfectly all ordinary tools, from the smallest to the largest, such as heavy and light chisels, plane irons, round and oblique edge tools, turners' chisels, etc., and all edged tools used on the bench. In grinding by hand power, no help is required to turn the stone, and in grinding by steam power, the same perfect bevel and edge is of course obtained.

Good men wanted as agents to handle this article. Clear field; no similar article in the market. It value is so apparent that it sells at sight. Live agents can make big money; frequently as much as $20 in a single day. For particulars address

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... Fisher & De... at the same ... are going on, ... many come in ... the places in spite of the men that live here with families. It is almost despairing to look at it, curse upon the parties that are to blame for it Carpenter wages varying from $1.25 to $2.25; $1.75 average.

... year so as to prove his ... "jack-leg" mechanics.

There is now in this city a union of "boss" plumbers, who require all journeymen to join their union and, in fact, make even ... who have only served one year to join ... men's union. This is really an ou... boys as well as the public at larg...

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Lock Box 180, Cleveland, Ohio,

NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1884.

OUR RULE OF ACTION.

The Fourth Annual Convention of our ...otherhood, at Cincinnati, O., Aug. 5—9, ...84, adopted the following resolution unanimously :

WHEREAS, The opinion prevails generally that Trades Unions encourage shirking and teach men to do as little work as possible.

RESOLVED, That we hold it as a sacred principle that Trades Union men above all others should set a good example as good and faithful workmen, honorable in the performance of their duties to their employers.

—Boycott the New York *Tribune!* Boycott its daily and weekly editions! Boycott all who advertise in it! Boycott all who support it, or aid and abet it by giving it countenance or encouragement ! It is an enemy of the working class. It hires "Rats," and believes in Cheap Labor while it Preaches Protection and Dear Labor. It has broken an honest agreement to hire none but union men and refuses all offers of arbitration and settlement. The only remedy is: Boycott the *Tribune* in every shape and form.

—The only safe rule to secure the fullest co-operation of the members of any organization, is to give them the right of passing upon the laws by which they are governed. The convention of the Brotherhood has observed this rule and placed itself on record in favor of a general vote on its proceedings, on the ground that "all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

—We believe in a system of Mutual Insurance among our members, for carpenters are subject to constant dangers. Life insurance companies can do the work no better than we can, nor as well. We don't need to support concerns, where 80 cents out of every dollar goes for the expenses and enrichment of greedy stockholders and directors- In our Brotherhood every member is a stockolder and is eligible to be a director.

—On September 20, a meeting of carpenters was held in Dayton, Ohio, to organize a local union, and on the same date in Eau Claire, Wis., which resulted in forming a local union in the latter place, and it has applied for a charter. Among its members are many Scandinavians. The Masons, Plasterers and Painters of Eau Claire are also organizing.

On October 1, Buffalo Union No. 9 rejoined our Brotherhood.

Applications are pending for charters for a colored union in Pensacola, Fla., and for a white union in New Orleans, La. Louisville, Ky., is also under way.

TO OUR EXCHANGES.

J. K. WHITESIDE, Chanute, Kansas, desires a copy of each labor paper now in print, and the date of its first issue to use in a panoramic history of the labor move... Editors of labor papers will con...ending to this ...

...war."—*Trenton Daily ...*

WHY THE PRESS DOES NOT DEFEND US.

The employing class lives on accumulated profits, the working class lives upon wages—and accumulation, for the great mass of them is out of the question. The relation of wages to profits has been distinctly and for ever laid down by the greatest political economist the capitalist class ever produced—David Ricardo. He says: "Profits depend on high or low wages if wages rise, profits must fall, all other things remaining unaltered; if wages fall, then profits must rise." Such being the case, it is not to be expected that papers belonging to the class which lives upon profits should fairly and adequately express, much less defend, the interests of the class which lives upon wages. Therefore the working class is establishing its own press, and the number of such journals is continually increasing.

THE ADVANTAGES OF OUR BENEVOLENT SYSTEM.

The insurance features or benevolent system of our Brotherhood was first adopted in our Second Annual Convention at Philadelphia, in 1882, and was next reaffirmed by the Cincinnati Convention last August, and now sustained by an overwhelming majority of the members in the recent general vote.

It is true, the law at first was lame and deficient. But in every respect the new law, made by the Cincinnati Convention, is a decidedly vast improvement on the old one adopted two years ago.

All that is required to make it efficient, is to have back of the new law a warm, generous feeling of loyalty to it, and a desire to see it carried out in its broadest intent. This is expected now and henceforth from every local union and from the officers and members of all the unions. To hesitate and doubt of the efficiency of the law, its advantages and practicability, is to create distrust and incite dissension. Whenever notice of an assessment is sent out to the local unions, it should be attended to promptly. Every member should feel it his duty to see the assessment paid and have it sent on without any delay. No one of us can tell what time death or accident may darken our door!

Our insurance system is no costly affair, which levies 50 or 75 cents assessment per member to cover each death. We intend to build no costly mansions, nor pay out princely salaries to useless directors. Our's is a system of mutual insurance in which every member has a voice.

Upon reference to the October *Bulletin*, it will be seen that the actual cost of this benefit system to each member has been 8¼ cents per month, based upon the total number of deaths that have occured in our Brotherhood the past twenty-two months, the full period since the benevolent system was introduced.

Who will growl about paying this trifle? What man is there among us who would wish to discontinue these benefits that he might save *eight and a quarter cents per month*, or ninety-nine cents per year? Where is there any cheaper rate of insurance for the sum of $250 Death Benefit, or for the same amount in case of Disability? And then remember also that these benefits are the best tie to hold our members from getting into arrears. And they have gained members for us and held our men in line, thus adding to the strength and power of our body in trade matters.

Who will dispute this? Then all we ask is for every member to bear these facts in mind. For our part, we propose to ca... Eight Hour Pro... in favor ... some... ally watchful of ... money ... eady to take advantage to secure to reduc... on?

STOP TRAMPING AROUND.

The one great trouble we have to contend with in trades unions is the disposition of men to tramp around from place to place. If like the apostles of old they would become proselytes for the cause wherever they would travel, if they would endeavor to start unions wherever they go and disseminate the principles of unionism, then their roving propensities would be of some value to the movement. But unfortunately the vast majority of these rovers are not of that stamp. They are not union men, but cold, selfish characters, or else wild, reckless natures who have no intelligent desire to advance the interests of their fellows.

Here to-day, and away the next month or next week, they crowd one city after the other; they seek by travelling to better their condition, instead of organizing and standing up for their rights in some one city. And in thus tramping around, they are used in many cases by the bosses to the injury of men with homes and families.

To-day the whole Pacific coast is swarming with such characters. In fact, all over the country there are men who are tramping from one place to another, in hopes of finding some Eldorado, which will at once lift them from poverty and endow them with wealth.

To-day it is the Canadian Pacific, yesterday it was the Manitoba craze. A little printer's ink, fair inducements and loud promises are all that is necessary to rally them. We now hear that carpenters and wood workers are leaving St. Paul, Minn., for the Canadian Pacific, and the throngs from other parts have overstocked that road with labor. A bare advertisement nowadays in a few leading papers that any new work is under way and a promise of high wages, and at once that region will be flooded with men looking for work. Better that these men organize and strive to better their condition and not be running off on a "wild goose chase."

CAN THERE BE HARMONY?

How often we hear talk about harmony or identity of interests between the laborer and capitalist. That there should be harmony between the two is something we do not deny; but it will only be when the man of labor becomes the capitalist. At present there is a bitter antagonism between laborer and capitalist, as evidenced in strikes on one hand and "lock-outs" on the other. If the interests of laborer and capitalist are identical, why is not the workingman as free to place his own price upon his own labor as the capitalist is to say what interest or profit he shall have upon money invested? But the capitalists deny this; yet they and their tools are the first to prate about "identity of interests."

The truth is, capitalists employ labor for the amount of profit they can make, and workingmen labor for the amount of wages received. These interests are consequently as antagonistic as the rival interests of the buyer who buys at the lowest rate and the seller who sells at the highest price. They are two distinct classes, whose interests are as widely separated as the poles. On the one side employers are interested because of profit to keep down the price of labor, while on the other side the workmen are justified on account of self-interest to keep up wages.

If workmen and capitalists are copartners why do they not share equally in the profits? Why does capital take the best of the table and leave labor to pick up the crumbs? Why does capital roll in affluence and power while labor ekes out a meagre existence in poverty and want? Are these the evidences of identity of interests, or are they not the ear-marks of an antagonism, an irrepressible conflict of interests?

The capitalists are ever watchful of their interests—ever ready to make everything bend to their desires. Then why should not workingmen ...

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

—Savannah Union No. 57, is prospering finely and is enrolling new members at the rate of a couple every meeting.

—Bro. Gustav Luebkert is not yet quite well of his long spell of sickness; he is on his farm at Parkersburgh, W. Va.

—Detroit Union No. 10 will be restored to our fold principally through the efforts of Bro. J. Estell, of the Bricklayers' Union.

—St. Louis Union No. 5 is growing steadily and now have an active set of officers who propose to establish a live Union in St. Louis.

—Covington Union No. 54 needs a little attention and encouragement from its sister Union No. 2, of Cincinnati. No doubt it will be given.

—Union No. 41. Morris, Minn., has been suspended from the B. for running below the constitutional number of members necessary to maintain a local union, its members having gone to other cities for work.

—Bro. Meers, Columbus Union No. 61, as a delegate to the Ohio State Trades Convention, secured the adoption by that body of our General Law against using any mill or other work manufactured in a penal institution.

—The First Annual Sociable of Union No. 68, Des Moines, Iowa, was held in Grand Army Hall, Sept. 10, tickets $1.00 each. And it was an enjoyable affair in every sense of the word.

—The cause of death of the late Bro. B. R. Forrest, of Trenton Union No. 31, was consumption; the certificate of death did not name the disease, hence it was not stated in our September journal.

—During the past month the General Secretary has paid visits to different cities of this State; on one trip to Rochester and Buffalo, speaking in the former place on Sept. 4th, and on another trip speaking in Troy on Sept, 17th.

—Union No. 15, Indianapolis, Ind., has a band of energetic workers that will keep the union flag flying in spite of all odds. They now purpose arousing the whole trade of that city by a large public mass meeting, which will be addressed by our G. S.

—Baltimore Union No. 29 was visited by a committee from the striking Bricklayers of New York. $25 was voted in aid of the strike, and resolutions of support were adopted. Baltimore carpenters have a walking delegate busily at work every day for union interests.

A SPLIT IN THE BUILDING TRADES OF NEW YORK.

Complaint is made by many of the leading building trades of this city that the the interference of the K. of L. has been the means of the split now in the Amalgamated Building Trades of this city. The facts are, a majority of the Housesmiths' Union voted to form a union and withdraw from the K. of. L. and 14 members opposed it. These 14 men by some questionable means got recognized in the Council and attempted to exclude the legitimate union of 380 members, and in this they were abetted by the K. of L. In consequence of this a quarrel ensued, which has split the Council. The K. of L. have had a large enough number of delegates to control the Council at times, while the large and powerful unions, numbering twenty times their strength, have been subordinated by them. This has created a great deal of dissension, and now at this time, when the "master builders" are at war with the stone cutters and bricklayers, it is playing into the hands of the bosses to have this quarrel. It is suicidal - even worse than suicidal !

CARPENTER'S UNION, NO. 61.

The Carpenter's Union, of this city, although but recently organized, now numbers over half a hundred good and true men, and as many as a dozen new names are handed in at every meeting night for membership. Every carpenter who is master of his trade in the city should join at once, and by so doing such a bold front ... could be shown as to compel the "bosses", our union wi... to recognize the young organization. It i... rid of all the ... confidently predicted that by the last ..., for they only ... this year the Union will number at le... their propaga... three hundred members.—*Union Advo... Columbus, O.*

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SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—J. D. Campbell, 517 Hayes Street.
SAN RAFAEL, Cal.—R C. Sands, Box 677.
ST. CATHERINES, Canada.—H. Bald, Gen'l Delivery
ST. LOUIS, Mo.—C. Heep, 1217 Lucas Ave.
SANTA ROSA, Cal.—J. Alex Thomson.
SEATTLE, Wash. Ter.—J. S. Sallee.
SAVANNAH, Ga.—Benj. R. Young, 5 Pendergast and Jones Lane.
SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Geo. M. McClure, 98 S. Clinton St.
TOLEDO, O.—M. J. Thompson, 72 Hewey St.
TORONTO, Canada.—Alex. Edgar, 20 Henry St.
TRENTON, N. J.—Jos. H. Appleton, 50 Lamberton St.
TROY, N. Y.—M. Richardson, 24 Liberty.
UTICA, N. Y.—Jas. H. Donaldson, 100 Seymour Ave.
VICTORIA, British Columbia.—G. D. Roper, Box 323.
WASHINGTON, D. C.—R. L. Fowler, 901 24th St., N. W.
WHEELING, W. Va.—C. M. Bathbun, 86 S. Huron St.

BENEFITS PROPORTIONATE TO DUES.

The following resolutions adopted by the recent convention of the Ohio State Trades Assembly, are worthy of the deepest consideration. There is a principle of justice in them so self-evident that no man can dispute it. All it requires is a feeling of such loyal devotion to unionism that will manifest itself in paying sufficient dues to carry out the ideas suggested in the resolutions:

Resolved, That we favor and recommend the incorporation of out of employment funds, so as to take away the premium which is now placed upon scabbing. If those Union men at work have a right to demand that those Union men unemployed maintain the rate of wages, the latter have a right to demand a share in the benefits resulting from their faithfulness in preferring to remain out of work rather than work cheaper.

Resolved, That, as low dues are inadequate to the fulfilment of these measures, we recommend that Unions increase their dues to such a sum as will be sufficient to establish strike funds, sick benefits, death benefits, and out of employment funds.

STAY AWAY FROM SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Business is slacking up in this city very fast, and men are becoming more plentiful; the intelligence offices are filling our city with carpenters from all parts of the country, and we seem to be powerless to help ourselves in stopping this influx. Of course we are making members of some of them, but they are getting too numerous for us, and to make things worse there are a great many brothers coming in here on us from other unions. If they were wise they would stay away, for times will soon be hard here, and if they would only stay away until matters are in better shape we would be glad to receive them. This winter will be very dull and crowds of idle men are on the streets already.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Toledo, Ohio.

It seems many of our members are greatly taken up with politics, for they have no time to attend the meetings. I verily believe nothing but starvation will make workmen see the necessity of organization, and if some carpenters in Toledo will not go hungry this winter, somebody will have to leave town, for, unless things change soon, there will not be bread and work for all, nor near all, for work is not what it should be at this season and wages are steadily going down, I don't think the average wages are more than $1.75 at present with a downward tendency. But after election is over and men come to their senses we will try to get our members together and call a public meeting, which will do much good.

Baltimore, Md.

Trade fair at present; all union men are employed. Wages $2.50. Union No. 29 is progressing slowly but steadily; the material we are getting in is of the best, and before long Union No. 29 will be second to none of the Brotherhood. It is not generally known that the Association of Amalgamated Carpenters does not allow its members to have connection with any other trade society, and several members of the former who were also connected with Oriole Assembly of Carpenters, Knights of Labor, and the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners have been compelled to withdraw from the latter organizations.

Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The boycotting movement is taking good hold here as result of the teachings of P. J. McGuire, and was first introduced by him during his visit here last winter. The Daily *Herald* trouble is now being settled owing to the boycott against it; the bakery of Moir, Son & Co. is now being boycotted. This is strengthening our unions as showing the weak ones that we have a strong hold on the community. The Carpenters' union is dragging in 3 or 4 new members every meeting, and it is becoming more interested in the Brotherhood, and by all means they ought to join it.

Toronto, Canada.

Trade has not improved any here of late; in fact, it has not been very pressing for some time back, as there are not many very big jobs going on. The work is mostly alterations and additions, but somehow or another, the members of Amalgamated Association and Union No. 27 always find jobs. Wages as usual.

On Saturday, August 30th ult., we held a joint Pic Nic with the Amalgamated, which was very successful, both in numbers and financially, considering the first attempt and the lateness of the season after so much holidaying this summer.—To fill vacancies in those offices Robt. Gunn has been elected President and Michael O'Brien Warden of this union.

Hamilton, Canada.

It is with feelings of sorrow that we are called upon to record the death of Bro. William Fogwell, which occured on Thursday morning, August 23d. While engaged in work he accidently fell, causing instant death. Our late Brother was a member of Union No, 18 since it was first organized in Hamilton, holding the office of Financial Secretary, which office he held until his death with credit to himself and much to the satisfaction of every member. His kindly disposition and good nature endeared him to every member. His death being the first that has occured in this union we keenly feel his loss. He leaves behind him a wife and a family of six small children to mourn his death, which have the sympathy of Union No. 18. "Truly, in the midst of life we are in death."

Bro. James Amess has been placed in the position of Cor. Sec., and Bro. Hancock as Fin. Sec. Trade dull, prospects poor.

Nashville, Tenn.

There is plenty of material here for a good union and it is badly needed. Union No. 51 needs a stirring up and we will soon have it. There is a great deal of work going on and wages still low, while the expenses of living are very high; rent is even higher than last year. Nearly every class of mechanics are organized here even down to the Boot-blacks on the streets. Carpenters in all the machine shops work ten and a half hours, some ten and three quarter hours per day.

Washington, D. C.

Since our successful boycott of the Alderney Dairy, the new members are rolling in to us in large numbers. On Sept. 3d we initiated 25; on the 10th, 16 more, and on the 24th, 17 more. Along with this those in arrears are being reinstated in droves; and all are enthusiastic and determined to wage a relentless war against scabs and scab bosses. The "Washington and Georgetown R. R. Co." has been employing scab carpenters and we will attend to them.

The "Inland and Seaboard Coasting Co." has, without a murmur, granted our request to hire none but union carpenters. We are determined to boycott any business-man who gives a contract to an unfair boss, and publish a list of all such bosses with a warning to the public. We have arranged with Union No. 29 of Baltimore and the "Oriole Assembly" of that city for a mutual recognition of cards and a similar rate of wages. We have complained to Secretary Teller of the Department of the Interior about the carpenter work on the new pension building. General Meigs has given out the contract to a man who is not a practical carpenter, and in consequence of the employment of apprentices and inferior carpenters doing piece-work, the work is poorly done. We also complain of the employment of men at piece-work, which practically nullifies the eight-hour law. General Meigs denies that the work on the building is of inferior quality. As to the employment of apprentices, and nullifying the eight-hour law, he says, that is the business of the contractors, with which he has nothing to do.

Kansas City, Mo.

Trade has been very good this summer and work plenty at moderate prices, $2.25 to $2.75 per day. Things are getting more quiet every week, and I am looking for a rather dull time this fall. As long as the welfare of the country is made up and exists in the accumulation of dollars in the hands of a few individuals and corporations, as long as offices are bought and sold for money, it does not make any difference who is at the head of the government, a republican or democrat, the devil or anybody else. So long as this present social system exists just so long there will be no change such as the working men wish for. But right here the working men will be the last ones to change the system, for it is in the very nature of every human being to hope and to try to become a capitalist himself and then live from the work of somebody else.

Des Moines, Iowa.

Trade is very quiet and work scarce. It is hard to estimate the number of employed and unemployed men, probably about seven-eighths are employed; wages $2.25 to $2.50 per day; 60 hours per week; cost of living high; rent is very high for a city of 30,000 to 35,000 population. Some of the contractors are kicking here, one said he would discharge the first man who joins the union, another has cut the union men down 25 cents per day. But our men always quit such bosses. Lots of union men are losing their tools by theft on the jobs. Our union is booming, notwithstanding the opposition we have to contend with. Our officers are: Pres., C. B. Langley; Vice Pres., Geo. Morrison; Rec. Sec., C. K. Innis; Fin. Sec., J. W. Hicks; Cor. Sec., L. G. Heffron; Treas., Geo. W. Reynolds; Con., C. J. Reynolds; Warden, E. Hiatt; Trustees, A. J. White (3 years), John Buechc (1 year), Geo. Hoyt (2 years); Assistant Conductor, W. M. Buck.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Our union is growing rapidly, even more so since the fee rose to $2.50; at present we are going through a conflict between the contractors and this union to reduce the hours of labor to nine hours. With some we succeeded and others still hold out, and again we have to contend with our own members who can not see the advantages of shorter hours. Between the two, if we succeed, this union will achieve a great victory without the loss of any time or money. We hope the Brotherhood will stand by us in this effort of ours to maintain our rights. We were glad to hear of the good success of the Convention and also of giving each L. U. the privilege of voting, or changing, or making new laws. We will be able to accomplish our purpose without a strike. We have the public with us, also the mills and a majority of the contractors. We also have nearly three hundred and fifty men enrolled and, I think, not over fifty non union men in the city. Thus far we have secured a great victory, and had it not been for the course of one treacherous scoundrel we should now be full masters of the situation. We hold the Fort. But to-day a few of the contractors that had not signed the agreement have made an effort and will attempt to make us surrender, and if they can get enough to join them they will force a strike, but everything that can possibly be done to avoid a strike, will be done. The Knights of Labor are with us, the Painters' Union, the Plasterers are all with us, so the prospect looks favorable, and with but a small faction against our success. If we accomplish our object with the opposition we have thus far met, it will be one of the grandest achievments ever gained.

Detroit, Mich.

There are about 150 carpenters idle, more or less, the last 3 months. The Peninsular Car Shop burnt down, throwing out 300 employees; one factory in High St. burnt down, 15 men idle; Fisher & Delbridge in Grand River Av. burnt out at the same time, 40 men idle. A few good jobs are going on, but what good are they when so many come in from the country towns and take the places in spite of the men that live here with families. It is almost despairing to look at it, curse upon the parties that are to blame for it carpenter wages varying from $1.25 to $2.25; $1.75 average.

Cincinnati, O.

Trade is good in our city at present and all union men at work, but it will soon slacken. We are initiating men every meeting night; we had seven on the first meeting-night in September. We received a set of resolutions from our colored Brothers of Charleston, S. C., and with thanks they were spread on the minutes of Union No. 2. They thanked all the delegates to the Convention, and the officers and members of Union No. 2 for hospitality shown to their delegate, F. E. Raimes, as a delegate to the Convention. We also received a vote of thanks from the Boston Union.

Raleigh, N. C.

Wages here are low, they run from 75 cents to $2 per day; there are but very few carpenters who get $2 a day in Raleigh; there are 3 or 4 men who get $2.50 a day. We have had plenty of work this year in Raleigh. The contractors are opposed to our union and do all they can against us. Some men have been discharged on account of belonging to the union. In 1872 there was a union here and it fell through, and they say this one will do the same, but we don't intend it shall, as it is on a better basis.

Chicago, Ill.

Business dull, wages low. Fire proof buildings dispense with numbers of carpenters who are thrown in the market to compete with each other to see who will work cheapest in order to secure a job. It is impossible to find the number of unemployed carpenters. Among union men about 100 were idle in August. The highest wages were $3 per day and they ranged from that down to $2. Carpenters work 59 hours where union men are employed; and 60 hours per week on all other jobs. Union men work by the day. There is a great deal of piece-work amongst cockroaches (non union), especially in the French quarter of the city. They take piece-work and earn from 50 cents to $2 a day at it. This can be proved; I have not known piece-men to earn more than $2 a day. Rent is high, about $10 a month for two small unfurnished rooms; provisions dear.

Cleveland, O.

Times here are very bad; work very slack, and wages very low; a great many men idle. There are more carpenters at work for $2, than there are for $2.25, and there are more getting $1.75, than there get $2. Last spring we had a large influx of strangers which tended largely to reduce wages, but now a great many of them are leaving the city, and it may be our times will improve a little this fall. If they do not, God help the poor this winter, for the rich will not, except through compulsion. The fall election is just beginning to stir up the slums.

We very much need the country round about this place organized in some shape, the Canadian borders and our own city as well; and after our new laws are adopted I hope we shall be able to do something in this city. We have had two or three cases in this city that o carpenters to the bene mention one. He wa thought he had been the Brother disclaimed and made every conc mony, but without a mained away from th largely and violently sick and, his wife being sick at the same time, they became very needy. Had he kept himself in good standing, he would have received his weekly benefit besides being cared for personally. So much for a little bad blood!

Philadelphia, Pa.

We have appointed a Walking Delegate in this city to represent our Union and do all he can to capture those who linger outside of our ranks and unite them with us. Bro. Jas. Dey was elected to the position. It is now some three weeks since he started prepared with instructions, and since then he has succeeded in establishing an Employment Bureau, through which he has been very useful to this union in securing work for a great many idle members. In this capacity he has also been able to increase the membership from ten to fifteen or more new ones each week in addition to the usual number.

The Short Hour League is at present very quiet. No doubt, if they had sufficient funds they could achieve something in the shape of shorter hours, but without it it's no good.

At one of our regular meetings lately, our union was waited on by a committee of the New York Bricklayers now on strike for 9 hours as a day's work. We voted them the sum of $100 towards the strike funds of their union, and we were glad to be able to do so, as for sympathy we are heart and hand with them. We are still working 60 hours per week and wages are the same. Trade still poor.

The Carpenter is at hand and is very interesting indeed, and worthy of more notice than the men seem to take of it, but you know a journeyman carpenter's time for study and the like is very limited.

Louisville, Ky.

Trade is rather dull here at present at all kinds of prices. The "boss" carpenters here are anxious to form a union, and have tried to form one in connection with the journeymen, for the purpose of elevating the trade. I find quite a majority of the carpenters here have acquired the use of a jack-plane, saw and hatchet, and without serving a week at the trade, set themselves up as mechanics. This is a feature that I speak of to workmen and advocate the Brotherhood as a remedy. The prospects of forming a union are good. I would like to see the apprentice system made popular in all trades; I would like to see the old Saxony law prevail in this country, requiring every boy at the age of 16, after receiving a certain amount of schooling, be bound out and compelled to learn a trade, and as soon as his apprenticeship is over, be required to travel at least one year so as to prove his proficiency. This whole country abounds with "jack-leg" mehanics.

There is now in this city a union of "boss" plumbers, who require all journeymen to join their union and, in fact, make even ... who have only served one year to join ... men's union. This is really an ou... boys as well as the public at lar...

Der Carpenter.

New York, October 1884.

Wozu wir uns bekennen.

Das folgende durchaus logisch durchdachte und vortreffliche Dokument stammt aus der Feder unseres Bruders C. C. Griffin von Union No.60 in Engelwood; es ist von unserer Konvention angenommen und zum Abdruck in unserem Journal beordert worden:

„Wir halten es für angemessen, daß jede Organisation, welche die Zustimmung der Menschheit beansprucht, ihre Principien und Ziele darlegen sollte, sobald ihre wachsende Einsicht sie dazu befähigt; und deßhalb bekennen wir uns u. A. zu folgenden Principien:

1. Daß, da der durchschnittliche Arbeiter sein ganzes Einkommen auch gleich wieder ausgiebt, jeder Dollar, den er mehr an Lohn bekommt, den Markt erweitert, auf dem er einkauft; und daß deßhalb jede Lohnreduktion sofort alle Märkte in soweit afficirt, als sie selbst beträgt.

2. Wir sind der Ansicht, daß jede Reduktion der Arbeitszeit die Intelligenz und das Glück des Arbeiters nicht allein, sondern auch die Nachfrage nach Arbeitern und die Löhne erhöht.

3. Wir halten dafür, daß, da 19 Zwanzigstel aller in den Ver. Staaten producirten Waaren hier konsumirt werden, es verderblich ist, die hiesigen Löhne zu reduciren, um mit ausländischen Märkten konkurriren zu können; d. h., es ist verderblich, einen Markt vom Umfang von $19 zu reduciren, um einen solchen vom Umfang eines Dollars zu gewinnen, wie dies der Fall sein würde, weil die Löhne der Lohnarbeiter mehr als die Hälfte unseres ganzen Marktes ausmachen.

4. Wir halten dafür, daß Lohnreduktionen zum Zwecke ausländische Märkte zu unterbieten, das Ausland veranlaßt, dasselbe zu thun, und daß durch ein solches Princip ein Land gezwungen wird, das andere an Hungerleiderei und Verkommenheit zu überbieten; daß, da die arbeitenden Klassen der ganzen Welt sich ohne Rücksicht auf Nationalitäts-Unterschiede mit einander verbinden, es die Pflicht Aller und im Interesse Aller ist, die verderbliche Konkurrenz der Nationen unter einander zu verhindern. Wir halten dafür, daß die Konkurrenz zum Zwecke der Reduktion der Löhne um nichts weniger verderblich ist, weil sie international ist.

5. Wir halten dafür, daß Personen, Kompagnien, Korporationen oder Verbindungen von Korporationen, welche zu Lohnreduktionen greifen, als verderbliche Monopolisten zu betrachten seien; und daß sie, wenn man ihnen gestattet, solche Reduktionen weiter fortzusetzen, alle Märkte ruiniren, alle Arbeiter versklaven und das Land in den Zustand anderer durch billige Arbeit verarmter Länder versetzen müssen.

6. Wir halten dafür, daß alle sogenannten beschützten Industrien auf Kosten der Bürger beschützt werden, und daß solche Industrien kein moralisches Existenzrecht noch das gesetzliche Recht haben, ausländische Arbeiter, oder solche, welche ihre Verdienste wieder aus dem Lande fortbringen, anzustellen; daß alle Ausländer nur in sich selbst erhaltenden Industrien beschäftigt werden sollten und nicht in solchen, welche durch die Steuern der Bürger erhalten werden.

7. Daß beschützte Industrien kein gesetzliches Recht haben sollten, die Löhne herabzudrücken, oder dazu beizutragen, daß sie herabgedrückt werden.

8. Wir sind gegen die Gefängnißarbeit, weil sie den Verbrecher zum Konkurrenten des ehrlichen Arbeiters macht und dessen Löhne re ucirt, sowie, weil sie zur Ueberfüllung der Märkte beiträgt.

9. Wir halten dafür, daß Theilnahme an den Wahlen besser ist, als Strikes anzuzetteln, daß aber Wahlen sowohl wie Strikes recht und nothwendig sind, und daß kein Lohnarbeiter für irgend einen Kandidaten oder irgend eine Partei stimmen sollte, welche nicht direkt die Sache der Arbeiter durch Gedanken, Argument und That unterstützen; noch sollte irgend ein Lohnarbeiter für Kandidaten oder Parteien stimmen, welche irgend einem lohnreduciren-den Monopol dienstbar sind."

Die Organisation der Arbeiter.

Das erfreulichste Zeichen der Jetztzeit ist die immer größere Aufmerksamkeit, welche der gewerkschaftlichen Organisation geschenkt wird.

Mehr und mehr beginnt man einzusehen, daß die Existenz guter Gewerkschaften und deren Vereinigung zu ein[illegible]mächtigen nationalen Föderation nicht nur nicht gemeinschädlich, sondern vielmehr eine absolute Nothwendigkeit [illegible]ie gesunde Entwickelung des gesammten Wohlstandes; daß ohne dieselbe die Lohnarbeiter bald in einen Zustand [illegible]Knechtschaft und [illegible]größten Elends herabgedrückt würden, durch welche das das ganze sociale und industrielle Leben in die größte Gefahr gerathen muß.

Doch die Organisation der Arbeiter ist immer mit vielen und großen Schwierigkeiten verknüpft. Das rasche Anwachsen des Kapitals in den Händen Einiger — die so oft versuchte Beschneidung der Rechte der Arbeiter — die stetige Zunahme arbeitersparender Maschinen, welche fast ausschließlich den Kapitalisten zum Nutzen gereichen — die fortwährend große Einwanderung europäischer Lohnarbeiter, durch welche die hiesigen Löhne herabgedrückt werden — alle diese und noch andere Ursachen wirken zusammen, um die Macht der Kapitalisten immer mehr zu steigern und die Kraft der Arbeiter immer mehr zu schwächen, wenn die Letzteren nicht schnell, energisch und entscheidend Gegenmaßregeln treffen. Dies kann nur durch die Gewerkschaften geschehen, welche bestrebt sein müssen, durch kluges Vorgehen, die Unterstützung des gesammten Volkes zu erlangen.

Man darf niemals vergessen, daß alle die Schäden unserer socialen Verhältnisse — das stetige Wachsen des Reichthums auf der einen Seite und die stetige Zunahme der Armuth auf der anderen Seite, in dem Lohnsystem ihren Ursprung haben, und daß die natürliche und schließlich einzig wirksame Abhülfe hierfür darin besteht, auf dem Wege der gewerkschaftlichen Organisation die jetzt bestehende Lohnarbeit in eine cooperative Arbeitsweise umzuwandeln.

Nur durch Organisation kann die Lage der Arbeiter verbessert werden. Die Gründung guter Gewerkschaften, die Vereinigung derselben in lokale Trades Councils und nationale Organisationen, und schließlich die Verbindung dieser zu einer großen Föderation, sind Allen Stufen im socialen Entwickelungsgang. Auch von ihrem Stimmrecht müssen die Arbeiter weisen Gebrauch machen, um dadurch Einfluß auf die Gesetzgebung zu erlangen. So müssen sie stetig fortschreiten zu dem großen Ziele, welches heißt: Die vollständige Befreiung der Arbeiter von dem Drucke des Kapitals.

(Cigar Makers Journal.)

Ein Stückchen Gewerks-Statistik.

Die durchschnittliche Sterberate der Amalgamated Carpenters Society betrug im vergangenen Jahr bei einer Mitgliedschaft von nahezu 23,000 nur 7 per Tausend, oder zusammen 161 Todesfälle, hauptsächlich von Lungen- und Herzkrankheiten. Während der ausgedehnten Erfahrungen in den 24 Jahren der Existenz der Gesellschaft, hat sich die Durchschnitts-Sterberate von 7 per Tausend nur selten geändert. Die Durchschnitts-Sterberate unter den Frauen der Mitglieder betrug 6 per Tausend.

Aus dem Jahresbericht für 1883 erfahren wir auch, daß in den 350 britischen Städten, über welche berichtet wird, die Löhne sich auf $5.12 bis $10.37 per Woche belaufen und in sehr wenigen Fällen wird auf Stück gearbeitet. Die Regel ist per Stunde zu arbeiten, damit die Arbeitszeit reducirt werde. Im Sommer sind die Arbeitsstunden per Woche 49½ bis 58½ und im Winter 44 bis 58. Dies hängt ganz von der Lokalität ab; in den meisten Städten beträgt die Zeit 54 Stunden per Woche und in allen genannten britischen Städten wurde nur in 4 Städten wöchentlich 60 Stunden gearbeitet. Ueberall wo die Stunden bestimmt sind, scheint der Lohn $10 für 54 Stunden per Woche zu betragen. Die Lebensmittel sind allerdings viel billiger als hier.

Gemeinsames Vorgehen.

Die dringendste Nothwendigkeit für die Arbeiter ist fester Zusammenhalt innerhalb ihrer Union und ein festes Band um die gesammten Gewerkschaften. Wohl ist es unbedingt nothwendig und nutzbringend für jeden Lohnarbeiter, sich mit seinen Collegen in eine feste Gewerkschaft zu vereinigen, zu Schutz und Trutz gegen die Uebergriffe des Kapitals oder gegen irgendwelche Schicksalsschläge, aber nicht minder nothwendig und nutzbringend ist es für jede einzelne Union, in Verbindung zu treten mit allen anderen Gewerkschaften, behufs gegenseitiger Unterstützung und Hülfe. Im socialen Kampf, der ja alle Lohnarbeiter berührt, bedarf es eines gemeinsamen Vorgehens, um erfolgreich den gemeinsamen Feind zu bekämpfen.

— Ein „Snob" (zu deutsch Laffe) ist ein Kind der aristokratischen Gesellschaft. Er sitzt auf einer Stufe einer langen Leiter und achtet den Mann, der über ihm sitzt, den aber, der unter ihm sitzt, verachtet er, ohne zu fragen, was er werth ist, nur deshalb, weil er unter ihm sitzt; er findet es in seinem innersten Herzen ganz natürlich, die Füße des Obersten auf der Leiter zu küssen und dem Untersten Fußtritte zu versetzen.

Eine wachsende Macht.

Die Gewerkschaften nehmen stetig an Macht und Einfluß zu, sie erringen sich ihren Standpunkt zwischen den Fabrikanten und dem einzelnen Arbeiter, und die Zeit ist nicht mehr fern, wo man den einzelnen Arbeiter gänzlich auf der Seite lassen wird, der nicht nach den Gesetzen und Beschlüssen seiner Union handelt. Die meisten Arbeitgeber betrachten noch immer Angebot und Nachfrage als die einzigen Faktoren, durch welche die Löhne geregelt werden. So lange die Gewerkschaften noch in ihrer Kindheit und nur mangelhaft organisirt waren, galt allerdings dieses System bei der Festsetzung der Lohnsc la; doch sobald die Gewerkschaften fest begründet und zu einer Macht herangewachsen sind, können sie auch ein anderes Gesetz aufstellen und dieses heißt: „Die Löhne werden bestimmt durch die nothwendigen und gerechten Bedürfnisse der Arbeiter." Die Arbeiter können diesem Gesetz Geltung verschaffen, indem sie sich weigern, zu anderen, als den von ihrer Union aufgestellten Löhnen zu arbeiten.

Immer mehr Fortschritte.

Unser Wachsthum dauert fort und es ist kräftig und gesund! Zehn neue Unions sind in den letzten paar Monaten Charters verliehen worden und zwar folgenden: No. 65 Grand Rapids, Mich.; No. 66 Houston, Tex.; No. 67 Humboldt, Jll.; No. 68 Des Moines, Jowa; No. 69 Syracuse, N. Y.; No. 70 Council Bluffs, Jawa; No. 71 Raleigh, N. C.; No. 72 Rochester, N. Y.; No. 73 Leavenworth, Kansas; No. 74 Pensacola, Fla. Die letzten vier erhielten ihren Charter seit der Konvention. Weitere Unions in vielen anderen Städten werden ebenfalls bald gechartert werden. Dies beweist ohne jeden Zweifel, daß unsere Brüderschaft eine fortwährend wachsende und fortschreitende Organisation ist. Diesen Herbst werden wir in vielen noch unorganisirten Städten eine eifrige Agitation beginnen.

Arbeiter Freunden.

— Die Arbeiter Amerikas waren nie in der glücklichen Lage, so viele gute Freunde zu besitzen, als gerade jetzt. Alle Parteien und Parteichen, welche einen Präsidentschaftskandidaten im Felde haben, beanspruchen, die Freunde der Arbeiter zu sein und die Beförderung deren Wohles zu ihrer Aufgabe gemacht zu haben. Wir wissen Freundschaft zu schätzen und die Arbeiter, welche noch so vielfach unter einander und gegeneinander feindlich gesinnt sind und mit und ohne Wissen gegen ihre besten Interessen handeln, bedürfen der wahren Freunde nur zu sehr. Doch sind wir der Meinung, daß diese Freundschaft nach den Thaten in der Vergangenheit und nicht nach den Versprechungen für die Zukunft beurtheilt werden. Bei einiger Aufmerksamkeit werden die Arbeiter finden, daß diese Freunde, die sich ihnen jetzt überall in den Weg stellen, wohl recht gut die Uebelstände, unter denen wir leiden, kennen, daß sie aber Mittel zur gründlichen Besserung entweder nicht vorschlagen wollen oder nicht vorschlagen können. Die meisten dieser Freunde appelliren an die Humanität, während wir nur Gerechtigkeit verlangen. Sie befürworten höchstens eine Gleichstellung der Arbeit mit dem Kapital, während wir verlangen, daß das Kapital der Arbeit untergeordnet wird, welche es erzeugt hat. Sie wollen dem Arbeiter Beschäftigung und einen guten Lohn gewährt wissen, aber sie wollen nicht das Profitmachen abschaffen, welches allen geschäftlichen Uebeln zu Grunde liegt. Wer ein wahrer Freund der Arbeiter ist, der wird ihnen nicht versprechen, daß ihre Lage durch die Erwählung eines Präsidenten, und sei es der beste Mann, der zu finden ist, gebessert werden kann, sondern durch die Macht, welche sie in der Fabrik, auf dem Arbeitsplatze, in der Organisation der Berufsgenossen zum Ausdruck bringen. Je länger sich die Arbeiter für die Erwählung eines Präsidentschaftskandidaten interessiren und begeistern, um die Organisirung ihres Gewerkes sich aber nicht bemühen, um so länger wird eine gründliche Besserung ihrer Lage hinausgeschoben.

(Möbel-Arbeiter-Journal.)

— Der Strike der Berliner Möbelarbeiter, an dem 11,000 Mann theilnahmen, ist zu Gunsten der Arbeiter beigelegt. Der Arbeitstag ist auf 9½ Stunden angesetzt.

— In Rußland können Kinder unter 4 Jahren in Fabriken nicht beschäftigt werden und im Alter von 12 bis 15 Jahren dürfen sie täglich nicht mehr wie 8 Stunden arbeiten und wenigstens 3 Stunden täglich müssen sie zur Schule gehen. Nur in den Ländern mit der sogenannten „hohen Civilisation" werden Kinder von 7 bis 8 Jahren 10 bis 12 Stunden lang von den 24 Stunden des Tages in Fabriken und Tretmühlen abgerackert.

Brüderschafts-Notizen.

— Union No. 57 zu Savannah macht gute Fortschritte und nimmt fast in jeder Sitzung ein paar neue Mitglieder auf.

— Union No. 5 in St. Louis wächst beständig und hat thätige Beamte, welche beabsichtigen, in St. Louis eine lebensfähige Union zu begründen.

— Bruder Gustav Lübbert hat sich von seiner langwierigen Krankheit noch nicht ganz wieder erholt und befindet sich auf seiner Farm bei Parkersburg, W. V.

— Binnen wenigen Wochen wird Union No. 10 von Detroit sich wieder uns angeschlossen haben und das verdanken wir hauptsächlich dem Bruder J. Estoll von der Bricklayer Union.

— Union No. 54 in Covington bedarf ein wenig Aufmerksamkeit und Ermuthigung seitens ihrer Schwester-Union No. 2 in Cincinnati. Wir zweifeln nicht, daß sie sich der Brüder in Covington annehmen werde.

— Union No. 41 zu Morris, Minn., ist suspendirt worden, weil ihre Mitgliederzahl unter die von der Konstitution vorgeschriebene Zahl gesunken ist. Die Mehrheit der Mitglieder hat in anderen Städten Arbeit gefunden.

— Die erste jährliche sociale Unterhaltung der Union No 68 zu Des Moines, Jowa, fand am 10. September in der Grand Army Hall statt. Der Eintritt kostete $1 und die Affaire war in jeder Beziehung zufriedenstellend.

— Während des vergangenen Monats ist der General-Sekretär in den verschiedenen Städten des Staates New York umhergereist. Auf der einen Tour sprach er in Rochester und Buffalo; in ersterer Stadt am 4. und in Troy am 17. September.

— Die Krankheit, welcher Bruder B. R. Foresk von Union No. 31 in Trenton kürzlich erlag, war die Schwindsucht. Der Todtenschein gab die Ursache nicht an, weshalb dieselbe im Journal vom September nicht mitgetheilt werden konnte.

— Bruder Meers von Union No. 61 in Columbus war derjenige, auf dessen Antrag die Ohio Staats Trades Assembly unser Allgemeines Gesetz annahm, nach welchem Sachen, die in Gefängnissen fabrizirt werden, von Arbeitern nicht gekauft werden sollen.

— Die Union No. 29 zu Baltimore wurde von einem Komite der strikenden Bricklayer von New York besucht und die Union votirte demselben $25 an Strike-Unterstützung. Die Carpenters von Baltimore haben einen Kontrolleur, der jeden Tag emsig auf den verschiedenen Baustellen umhergeht und die Interessen der Union vertritt.

— Union No. 15 zu Indianapolis, Ind., hat eine Anzahl energischer Männer, welche trotz aller Schwierigkeiten das Banner der Gewerkschaften emporhalten. Sie beabsichtigen jetzt, alle Gewerksgenossen jener Stadt in einer großen Massenversammlung anzuregen, welche im nächsten Monat stattfinden soll und wobei unser General-Sekretär eine Ansprache halten wird.

Der Ausstand der Bricklayer und Steinhauer.

Die Baumeister dieser Stadt machen alle Anstrengungen, um den Exekutiv-Council der Baugewerke zu brechen. Als sie fanden, daß sie mit ihrem Versuche, die Einführung der neunstündigen Arbeitszeit zu verhindern, nicht erfolgreich waren, beschlossen sie, die Steinhauer von der Arbeit auszuschließen. Die letzteren haben ein Uebereinkommen mit der Bricklayer Union, durch welches beide Organisationen gehalten sind, gemeinschaftlich zu handeln zur Beförderung ihrer Interessen. Die Steinhauer waren deshalb die ersten, welche die Bricklayer unterstützten, als sie für die neunstündige Arbeitszeit zum Strike gingen. Sie bewilligten gleich am Anfang 500 Dollars für den Strikefond und gaben seitdem 100 Doll. jede Woche. Sie weigerten sich ebenfalls, für Gebäude zu arbeiten, an denen Bricklayer-Scabs arbeiteten. Es war dieser letztere Umstand, welcher den Aerger der Steinhauermeister-Union erregte. Die Strikes der Bricklayer und Steinhauer in New York, welche durch die Forderung der neunstündigen Arbeitszeit von Seiten der Bricklayer verursacht wurden, werden immer noch weiter geführt, ohne daß sich auf irgend einer Seite ein Zeichen von Nachgiebigkeit bemerklich macht. Die Reihen der strikenden Maurer lichten sich dadurch, daß immer mehr derselben Beschäftigung für neun Stunden finden, während viele der strikenden Steinhauer in anderen Städten Arbeit finden.

Anarchisten in Gewerkschaften.

Es gibt zwei Klassen von Anarchisten: Politische und Sociale Anarchisten. Und Beide bekämpfen jede aufbauende Tendenz der Arbeiterbewegung.

Der Politische Anarchist spekulirt darauf, daß er jede Gewerkschaft und Arbeiterorganisation dazu benütze, für eine politische Partei Kapital zu schlagen, damit er dadurch ein Aemtchen bekomme oder seinen unersättlichen Ehrgeiz als Führer und Großmaul befriedige. Der politische Anarchist glaubt, daß alles Uebel nur durch die Gesetzgebung entstanden und daß es nur durch noch mehr Gesetze heilbar sei. Er schreit nur nach „Politik" und dem Stimmkasten. Und wenn er zu einer Gewerkschaft oder einer anderen Arbeiter-Organisation gehört, erhält er dieselbe in einer fortwährenden Aufregung über Politik und persönliche Streitereien; er kann nicht aufhören, unter den Mitgliedern Krakehl und Raddau zu stiften. Er ist in allen Fällen ein „politischer Kicker", dessen Egoismus und Eigendünkel ihn unveränderlich dazu treiben, jede Organisation, in welche er seinen Fuß setzt, auseinander zu sprengen, wenn sie sich nicht seinen Launen und Diktaten fügt. Solche „Kicker" sollten einfach hinaus„gekickt" werden.

Die Socialen Anarchisten schwatzen unaufhörlich von Petroleum, Revolution nnd Dynamit, und über Diejenigen, welche nicht mit ihnen übereinstimmen, schimpfen und heulen sie wie verrückt. Sie sind gegen Autorität, Regierung und Organisation in jedweder Form, weil sie von Natur derartige Individualisten sind, daß sie Niemanden und Nichts als Autorität anerkennen, als sich selbst. Sie sind die reinsten Unfehlbarkeitspinsel.

Wenn diese Sorte jemals die Macht erlangen sollte, würden sie die unbarmherzigsten Diktatoren werden, die es jemals gegeben hat. Wenn sie den Muth hätten, zu sagen, was sie denken, würden sie weit weniger gefährlich sein, als sie es wirklich sind. Aber, obwohl sie sich „Männer der That" nennen, sind sie sehr vorsichtig, was ihre eigenen Personen und deren Sicherheit betrifft und deßhalb bleiben ihre blutrünstigen Drohungen, die auf Meuchelmord und Raub hinausgehen, nichts weiter als eben Drohungen, ausgenommen vielleicht, wenn irgend ein halbblödsinniger und verbrecherisch angelegter Kopf durch ihre Rasereien angesteckt und beeinflußt wird.

Wir würden von dieser Klasse nicht reden, wenn wir nicht wüßten, daß einige von ihnen wirklich in die Gewerkschaften eingedrungen sind, in der Absicht, die Arbeiter-Bewegung zu verzögern und sie zu hindern. Unter Anderem haben sie die Möbelschreiner Union No. 7 von New York kürzlich gestört und tribulirt. Sie pflegen unter den Mitgliedern die Beamten zu verdächtigen und schwächen und zerstören dadurch schließlich die Organisation. Durch endlose Debatten und fortwährende Nörgeleien treiben sie eine Menge Mitglieder aus den Versammlungen und wenn sie dadurch die Majorität erzielt haben, verfahren sie wie die brutalsten Despoten und zeigen, worauf ihre Teufelei eigentlich hinausläuft. In Chicago hat die Carpenters Union No. 21 derartige Erfahrungen gemacht, aber die Streithämmel sind jetzt machtlos geworden. Wo immer sie sich befinden, stiften sie Unheil und es gibt nur ein Mittel gegen sie: Unerbittliche Strenge. Vernunft nehmen sie nicht an, noch lassen sie sich disciplíniren. Kickt sie hinaus, wo sie sich zeigen mögen!

Die Berliner Tischler.

— Die Berliner Tischler, die erst vor Kurzem einen Strike siegreich überstanden hatten, befinden sich schon wieder in einer Lohnbewegung, weil eine größere Anzahl von Fabrikanten den vereinbarten Wochenlohn von 18 Mark bei 9½-stündiger Arbeitszeit nicht weiter zahlen will. Die Arbeiter sind entschlossen, von Neuem zu striken, wenn die Arbeiter bei ihrer Renitenz verharren. — Die Buchbinder trachten ebenfalls höhere Löhne zu erzielen nnd zwar 18 M. bei neunstündiger Arbeitsdauer. Einzelne Meister sind bereit, die Forderung zu bewilligen, unter der Bedingung, daß der Lohnsatz von 18 Mark allgemeine Geltung erlange. Ohne Arbeitseinstelluug wird es wohl auch hier schwerlich abgehen. Die Arbeiterbewegung Berlins bietet überhaupt ein Bild der äußersten Regsamkeit dar. Kürzlich fanden Samstags und Sonntags allein 16 öffentliche Arbeiterversammlungen statt, in denen sowohl gewerbliche als politische, die Reichstagswahlen betreffende Fragen erörtert wurden.

— Revolutionen werden nicht von Unten herauf forcirt, sondern sie sind die bittere Frucht von Armuth, Elend und Unwissenheit, verschärft und verzweifelt gemacht durch verschwenderischen Luxus, cynische Gleichgültigkeit und schamlose Habgier von Oben.

(London Justice.)

Verschiedenes.

—Die Union zu Los Angelos ist in schnellem, phänomenalen Wachsthum begriffen.

— Boycottet die N. Y. „Tribune" und Alle, die sie in irgend welcher Art und Weise unterstützen.

— L. E. Rames von Charleston, S. C., wird in Bälde die Carpenter von Columbia, S. C., organisiren.

— Union No. 21 von Chicago hat von der Union No. 56 in Los Angelos $25 erhalten, um ihre Strikeschuld abtragen zu helfen.

— Die Carpenter Unions von Savannah und Charleston werden mit den übrigen Unions im Süden daselbst die Agitation für unsere Bewegung ernstlich in die Hand nehmen.

— Union No. 8 von Philadelphia hat James Dey zum Kontrolleur gewählt und in 3 Wochen hat er ein Arbeitsbureau gegründet, einer Menge von Mitgliedern Arbeit verschafft und hunderte von Dollars an rückständigen Beiträgen eingetrieben.

— Besucht Eure Versammlungen, bezahlt prompt Eure Beiträge und zieht neue Mitglieder heran. Es ist in Eurem und der Union Interesse, dies zu thun. Ihr könnt von Niemanden als Euch selbst Hülfe erwarten. Arbeitet, um Eure Union zur Macht zu verhelfen, damit Euch die Bosse respektiren lernen.

— Die Arbeiten an dem neuen Pensionsgebäude in Washington, D. C., werden im Kontrakt und von Scabs, Stückarbeitern und Lehrlingen ausgeführt. Union No. 1 hat die Thatsachen dem Sekretär des Innern vorgelegt und verlangt, daß dieser Schweinerei Einhat gethan werde.

— Die 2. Jahreskonvention der National-Organisation der Zimmerleute in Deutschland, genannt der „Verband der deutschen Zimmerleute", hat vom 1. bis zum 3. Juni 1884 in Berlin stattgefunden. Es waren Delegaten aus 50 Städten anwesend und die Verhandlungen bestanden in einer Regelung der Gewerksstatistik und Vervollkommnung der Konstitution.

— Jn Baltimore und San Francisco sind Zerwürfnisse zwischen den Amalgamated Carpenters und unserer Brüderschaft entstanden, weil in jenen Städten unsere Unions gegen Nicht-Unionleute striken, die keine Karten haben. Die Amalgamated Union verbietet ihren Mitgliedern, irgend einer anderen Union beizutreten und dadurch ist der Trubel entstanden. Um Einigkeit herbeizuführen, wird diese Regel wahrscheinlich abgeschafft werden.

— Die Union No. 8 zu Philadelphia hat Bruder Dey zum Kontrolleur gewählt. Er hat ein Arbeitsbureau etablirt und bereits vielen Unionleuten Arbeit verschafft; außerdem kollektirt er die Beiträge Solcher, die sonst im Rückstande bleiben würden, und nicht Unionleute treibt er zum Anschluß an die Organisation. Bis jetzt ist er sehr erfolgreich gewesen. Wir hoffen, daß die übrigen Unions bald stark genug sein werden, um diesem Beispiele folgen zu können.

— Die New Yorker Steinhauer striken, weil ihre Bosse verlangen, daß sie den Bricklayern nicht beistehen sollen in dem 9-Stunden-Strike. Die Bricklayer haben an allen Jobs gewonnen mit Ausnahme von dreien und die Steinhauer Bosse werden wahrscheinlich bald nachgeben müssen. Die Steinhauer hatten keinen Strike seit 1870, als sie die Achtstunden-Arbeit einführten, die sie seit jener Zeit beibehalten haben. Jhre Union ist gut organisirt und kein Steinhauer steht außerhalb derselben. Jn der Kasse hat die Union $70,000.

— Die Abkürzung der Arbeitszeit bedingt stets eine Erhöhung der Löhne. Noch nie gab es eine Zeit, wo durch verkürzte Arbeitszeit die Löhne gesunken wären, nein, im Gegentheil, die Löhne selbst und auch deren Kaufkraft wurden immer dadurch erhöht. Jn den Gewerken mit kurzer Arbeitszeit herrschen höhere Löhne als in den Gewerken mit langer Arbeitszeit. Sobald in einer Geschäftsbranche Viele außer Arbeit sind, braucht man nur die Arbeitsstunden zu verringern, um Beschäftigung für Alle zu schaffen.

— Die wiederholten Versuche, billige auswärtige Arbeiter unter Kontrakt zu importiren, um mit diesen die Stellen strikender amerikanischer Arbeiter zu besetzen, bilden eine der größten Gefahren für unsere gesammte Nation und alle Staatsmänner sollten ihre Aufmerksamkeit darauf lenken. Die Vorgänge im Hocking Gebirge waren nur Vorboten des Sturmes, nur schwache Anzeichen eines drohenden vulkanischen Ausbruchs. Werden unsere Staatsmänner und Kapitalisten diese Warnungszeichen zu beherzigen wissen?

(Wheeling News-Letter.)

Gewerkschafts-Notizen.

— Union No. 8 von Philadelphia ist eifrig mit der Agitation für die Achtstunden-Bewegung beschäftigt.

— Jn Bradford, England, ist der sechswöchentliche Strike der Carpenters um 7½ Pence Zulage mit der Bewilligung von 7 Pence beigelegt worden.

— Die Cigarrenmacher von Cincinnati halten noch immer mannhaft Stand und sie zeigen nicht die geringste Schwäche, obwohl sie bereits nahezu 7 Monate ausgeschlossen sind.

— Ein Korrespondent aus Dallas, Texas, warnt alle Arbeiter davor, nach dem Südwesten zu gehen, da derselbe überfüllt ist, die Löhne niedrig und die Lebensmittel theuer sind.

— Union No. 68 zu Des Moines, Jowa, nimmt prächtig an Mitgliedern zu und bald werden wir eine aus Farbigen bestehende Carpenters Union in Pensacola, Fla., haben.

— Ein kürzlich nach Sidney, Australien, ausgewanderter Carpenter schreibt: „Hunderte von Arbeitern aller Branchen liegen auf der Straße und es ist sehr wenig Aussicht auf Arbeit. Das Zimmerhandwerk liegt vollständig brach."

— Bei Todesfällen in Lokal-Unionen bemerken wir, daß die im Rückstande befindlichen Mitglieder sich beeilen, ihre Rückstände zu zahlen, weil sie sich fürchten, das Benefit zu verlieren. Es ist der Vortheil des Benefitsystems, daß es die Leute zur Pünktlichkeit anhält.

— Aus allen Theilen des Landes kommt die allgemeine Klage der Carpenters über flauen Geschäftsgang und jede Stadt und Ortschaft ist mehr als überlaufen von Fremden und Arbeitslosen. Die Löhne sind reducirt worden, ausgenommen dort, wo es eine Union gibt. Und alles das kommt zusammen mit der üblichen Stille, welche das Präsidentschaftsjahr gewöhnlich mit sich bringt.

—Der Bericht der Almalgamated Carpenters für September zeigt, daß die Verhältnisse in Großbritannien und dessen Kolonien sehr schlecht für unser Handwerk sind und daß in Bradford, England, ein Theil der Zimmerleute striken. Die Gesellschaft hat 415 Zweigvereine, 24,428 Mitglieder, 517 auf der Krankenliste und 116 Pensionäre.

— Während die Bevölkerung unseres Landes sich in den letzten 30 Jahren verdoppelt hat, vermehrte sich die Anzahl der Wahnsinnigen, Blödsinnigen, Blinden und Tauben um das Fünffache. Jm Jahre 1830 gab es 8 Irrenhäuser in den Ver. Staaten und jetzt sind deren über 90 vorhanden. Das sind die natürlichen Folgen des Systems, welches Armuth und Ueberarbeit auf der einen und Luxus und Spekulation auf der andern Seite hervorbringt.

— Bruder G. Edmonston von Washington, D. C., schlägt vor, daß an einem gegebenen Datum, z. B. am 1. Mai 1886 die Gewerkschaften des ganzen Landes die Arbeit einstellen sollen, wenn nicht allgemein der achtstündige Arbeitstag eingeführt würde. Er wird diesen Vorschlag dem Kongreß der Föderation der Gewerkschaften, an dem er als Delegat theilnehmen wird, vorlegen. Wir glauben, daß dies der einzig richtige Weg ist, diese Jdee zur Ausführung zu bringen.

— Vor Jahren waren die Bergleute von Durham (England) vollständig in der Macht ihrer Arbeitgeber, deren fortwährende Unterdrückungsmaßregeln sie von einem Strike zum anderen trieben. Jetzt ist das ganz anders, denn, wie Sir Joseph Pease im Parlamente sagte, „sie sind vollkommen im Stande, sich selbst zu beschützen", und dies kommt nur daher, daß sie ihre Union vernünftig organisirt haben.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Union No. 65 ist in schnellem Wachsen; vorige Woche ließen sich 25 neue Mitglieder vorschlagen. Wir erwarten, demnächst den Schulrath unserer Stadt in die Hände zu bekommen und dann kann das Staatsgesetz durchgeführt werden, auf Grund dessen 300 Kinder aus den Fabriken geholt werden sollen; und geht das nicht, so werden wir wenigstens erfahren, weshalb es nicht geht.

Denver, Col.

Die Stadt ist von Carpenters überlaufen. Da im ganzen Staate das Geschäft flau ist, kommen sie hierher, wie die Bienen nach den Blumen, in der Hoffnung, Arbeit zu finden. Es wird jetzt sehr viel auf Stück gearb[eitet] die Stücke sind klein und der Lo[hn] Löhne $2.25 bis $3 für 10 Stu[nden] und die Leute werden getrieb[en] ven auf der Baumwollenplanta[ge]

Neues von überall her.

Washington, D. C.

Mr. Ward, Besitzer der Alderney Dairy in hiesiger Stadt, miethete nicht zur Union gehörende Carpenter. Wir boycotteten ihn und sofort gab er nach. Seitdem bekommen wir 15 bis 20 neue Mitglieder in jeder Versammlung

Akron, Ohio.

Es giebt hier Leute, welche sich für zu gute Arbeiter halten, um mit anderen, die weniger geschickt sind, sich zu vereinigen, und doch arbeiten sie mit ihnen zusammen und werden mit ihnen herabgedrückt. Es giebt 150 Carpenter in Akron uud einige sprechen davon, eine Union zu gründen. Die Löhne betragen $1.50 bis $2.25. Kaum 20 erhalten den letzigenannten Betrag.

Muscatine, Jowa.

Geschäft — flau! Viele Carpenter arbeitslos; Lohn $1.75 bis $2. Baugeschäft liegt in Folge der Prohibitionsgesetze darnieder.

Chicago, Jll.

Geschäft flau; Viele sind arbeitslos; Unionleute arbeiten hier 59 Stunden per Woche; Scabs arbeiten 60. Es gibt eine Menge Stückarbeit im französischen Viertel und die Leute verdienen 50 Cents bis $2 per Tag. Die deutschen Branches nehmen zu und unsere Union hat jetzt zwei deutsche, zwei englische und eine böhmische. Es ist aber nothwendig, daß wir die verrückten Johann-Most-Hansnarren los werden, denn die wollen unsere Union nur für ihre Zwecke benutzen oder gar sie auseinander sprengen.

Lynchburg, Va.

Wir müssen eine Carpenters Union hier haben. Durchschnittslohn $1.50 und es giebt 100 gute Carpenter in Lynchburg, die ganz gut eine Union gründen könnten.

Cedar Rapids, Jowa.

Unter den 30,000 Einwohnern unserer Stadt sind ungefähr 400 Carpenter. Für sehr gute Arbeiter geht der Lohn einigermaßen an, es gibt hier aber eine Anzahl billiger, schlechter Arbeiter, die mit jedem Lohn zufrieden sind und sich mit $1.50 bis $2.25 begnügen, während wir $2.50 bis $3 25 verlangen. Wir sind dabei, uns zu organisiren.

St. Paul, Minn.

Jn keiner Stadt des ganzen Landes bekommen die Carpenter niedrigere Löhne als in St. Paul; Durchschnitt jetzt $2.25. Die theuren Lebensmittel und der lange Winter machen den Carpenter in St. Paul im Vergleich zu anderen Arbeitern zum schlechtest bezahlten Arbeiter in Amerika.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ein Theil der Arbeit an der Arbeiter-Halle sollte von Scabs verrichtet werden; wir drohten die Halle zu boycotten und die anderen Gewerkschaften zu veranlassen, sich anderswo zu versammeln. Das genügte und der Boß hat seine Leute gezwungen, sich der Union anzuschließen.

Columbus, Ohio.

Eine große Menge Carpenter sind arbeitslos; Löhne $1.50 bis $2.25, gerade so viel wie Tagelöhner. Aber unsere Union hat im letzten Monat 15 neue Mitglieder bekommen.

Omaha, Neb.

Die Carpenters Union war der leitende [Geist] bei Organisiruug der hiesigen Trades Assembly. Jn Lincoln, Neb., wird bald eine neue Carpenters Union organisirt werden.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Union No. 56 hat für 9 Stunden gestrikt und ist an allen Jobs, einige wenige ausgenommen, siegreich gewesen. Die Union ist sehr stark, obwohl die Stadt mit Leuten überfüllt ist. Das Geschäft geht nicht besonders.

Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Seit P. J. McGuire im letzten Winter [hier] war, hat die Union-Bewegung einen starken Umfang angenommen. Die Carpenters bekommen jetzt $1.75 per Tag, einen Gewinn von 35 Cents täglich. Wir haben den „Daily Herald" gebo[ycottet] und ihn dazu gezwungen, Unionsetzt good[en]. Jetzt boycotten wir die [Mill] stop there, weil ihre Leute täglich [going] out as journeymen; wir wollen, daß sie 10 [tools] have acquired the art q und nicht mehr wie andere

CORRESPONDENCE.

Trenton, N. J.

Business fair; wages low, only $2.25. Prospects for winter not encouraging.

Toledo, Ohio.

The following members have been expelled: John Gilday, F. Burns, and J. Brixner, on account of being in arrears with monthly dues. Business is slack.

Seattle, Washington Territory.

Times are hard and but little work, and lots of idle men. Wages down to $2.50 and $3 on all jobs but one in the city, and the majority of union men have left the city

New Bedford, Mass.

The agent of the Wamsutta Mills gave the help a trip down the river last week after reducing their wages.—Stealing a dollar with one hand and giving a quarter back with the other.

Victoria, British Columbia.

Business is comparatively fair here at present. There is a good deal of building doing, but there are more than enough carpenters to do the work. Wages are $3, $3.25, and $3.50. Board per week, second class, $5 to $7; first class $10 to $12.

Charleston, S. C.

Times are very dull; everything is at a stand still, but we trust it will not be so always. We are proud to hear of the good work done at the Convention.

Rochester, N, Y.

Our officers are: Pres., A. C. Harrold; Vice Pres., Thos. Austin; Rec. Sec., F. E. Crandell; Fin. Sec., Jas. Seville; Cor. Sec., E. M. Blakeslee; Treas., W. W. Pruyn; Con., J. J. Buhser; Warden, J. F. Weed; D. K., M. Malkern; Trustees, M. J. O'Brien, A. J. De Monia, and J. Mehan. We have as many as 20 propositions awaiting action at our next meeting, and we are bound to grow,

Boston, Mass.

Work is fair, all union men employed; wages $2.50 to $3 per day. At our meeting, Sept. 15, the Cor. Sec. in a brief speech presented our President with a gold badge, the emblem of our order. That night we took in five new members and on the 22nd we took in eleven, so you see, we are on the increase. On Sept. 29th we held an entertainment which was a grand success.

Pensacola, Fla.

The following is a list of the officers of Carpenters' Union No. 74: Pres., C. E. Shackleford; Vice Pres., Andrew Giddins; Rec. Sec., J. H. Wright; Fin. Sec., F. H. Hamilton; Cor. Sec., J. S. Daniels.

I am instructed to state to you that the colored carpenters have organized a Union here, and we want to know whether they can work under our constitution, or whether they can be organized as a separate union at all. State of trade is quite fair; rate of wages is from $2 to $3; ten hours labor.

Columbus, O.

We are progressing slowly but very steadily, although some who joined at first do not show a good disposition towards the union. Those who have come in later are better and among the best class of mechanics. We intend to push things vigorously till the spring as far as getting new members. Lately those on the outside are beginning to realize the benefits to be derived from [illegible]on.

Denver, Col.

I have nothing new. Our union is gradually growing, having increased 18 members in August. Wages are about the same here; most of our men atwork at $2.50 to $2.75 per day; ten hours (will not average over $2.50). There seems to be a little more work now than there has been this summer, but there is no rush, and as soon as the fall work is over we can look for a stand-still and fearful dull times this winter.

St. Catherines, Canada.

Times are dull; wages are likely to come down, but a majority command $2 per day. Prospects for fall and winter not very cheering. Dull times seem to have brought a very apathetic feeling into a number of our members, and in consequence it needs almost a tax collector or iron cheeked book agent to get their dues out of some, but as I tell many of them it is adversity that tries, and if we only stick to it and keep our union up, we will, when times change, be able to get our own back again with interest carefully noted.

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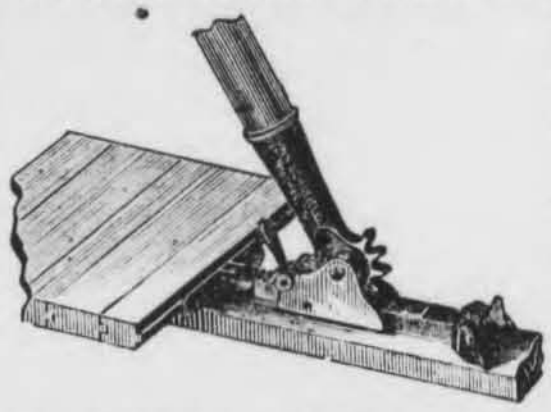

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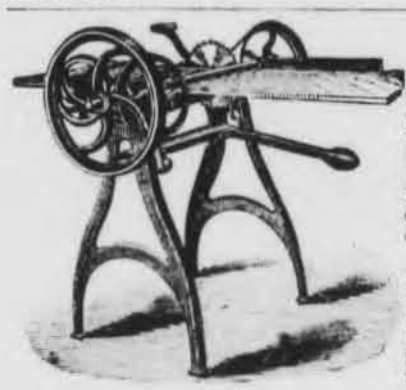

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. CLEVELAND, NOVEMBER, 1884. NUMBER 11.

CARELESS STATEMENTS IN LABOR PAPERS.

For capitalistic papers it is no surprise to find them indulging in extravagant statements, but when labor papers that are expected to be the defenders and advocates of the working class follow their example, it is time they should be gently admonished of their evil ways. The following is an item which has pretty largely gone the rounds of the labor press the past month, and can serve no other purpose than to overstock the labor market of the Pacific coast, which is crowded enough now. It is this:

Building is rather lively in San Francisco, and skilled carpenters, bricklayers, painters and plasterers as a rule find employment. The foundries are quite busy. The planing mills and sash, door and blind factories are running about up to the average.

From all the information in our possession, and we are in a position to know, trade is anything but lively in San Francisco, and the labor market there is filled with men. Thousands are walking the streets idle, and the prospects are far from being bright. There is an abundance of skilled labor there glad to get a day's work. In fact we have advised our readers the past two months to stay away from the Pacific coast for the present, and we repeat that advice now.

This canard, which has got into the labor papers, first emanated from the employers' trade journals of San Francisco. They want to crowd the city with men so as to bring wages down to starvation prices. Strange that the labor papers should fall into the trap of becoming their accessories. In the future they should avoid such careless statements.

LEARNING LESSONS FROM DEFEAT.

In spite of defeat and persecution the Fall River Spinners keep up their organization and are building up their treasury again and out of their low wages are paying one dollar per month to the union fund. This is a commendable example to other trades and all the more so after having suffered as the Spinners did in a strike of several months duration. They have learned, as all others will soon learn, that organizations with high dues and a strong treasury are the only weapons of defense against the bosses. Where other trades societies would be discouraged after defeat the Spinners have turned their attention as to how they can best perfect their organization. This is the only proper way to save them from further encroachments.

—The nine-hour rule is meeting with a good deal of favor among employers in Pittsburgh, especially in locomotive and railroad shops, and in a few of the smaller shops.

—One of the greatest problems of the age is not how to compete with countries in the manufacture of but how to enable our own p consume a fair share of their o ducts, which many of the mo trious so need. To-day Ame overflowing granaries while people need more bread, a houses are glutted with clothi rial while millions of willi are insufficiently clad.—*Phila*

SHAVINGS.

—Trade in Englewood, Ill., is quiet. Wages, $2.50.

—W. Rorke was expelled from Union No. 60, Englewood, Ill., for taking piecework.

—The majority of our unions now charge $2 initiation fee, and 50 cents per month dues.

—Union No. 29, Baltimore, is considering the question of incorporating under the State law.

—Press dispatches state 600 delegates were present at the 21st annual convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers which opened at San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 1.

—Many of the members of Union No. 45, Seattle, Wash. Ter., have left there for other parts, owing to scarcity of work. The Union, however, has been reorganized to date from Oct. 1, 1884.

—Whenever a death occurs in any of our local unions, we notice the members in arrears are quick to pay up, for fear of getting out of benefit. This is the advantage of the benefit system in keeping men up to the mark.

—Akron, O., *Trades & Labor Journal* says: Carpenters have so little work that many are leaving for other places. Brick and stone masons have little work and poor prospects for the balance of the year.

—Buffalo Union No. 9, has withdrawn from the Central Labor Union of that city, for political reasons. Bro. John Rieman, President of Union 9, was Treasurer of the Central Labor Union and fulfilled his trusts honestly.

—At the convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen which began its sessions in Toronto, Canada, on Sept. 26, it was reported that the society had paid out $66,000 for beneficiary purposes the past year and $81,000 for funeral purposes and have a surplus of $17,000 in their treasury.

—Our Raleigh, N. C. correspondent writes trade is dull; wages $1.75 for ten hours. Carpenters Union No. 71, has been incorporated by the State. A union of white carpenters will soon be chartered by us in that city. Bro. Jas. O. Ruth will attempt to organize carpenters unions in some towns in North Carolina, viz: Durham, Oxford and Henderson.

—Report of the *Amalgamated Carpenters* for October, shows that trade is very bad in Great Britain and Ireland and overstocked in New Zealand and Australia. And in Armagh, Ireland there is a strike against lower wages. The society has 417 branches, 24,624 members, 970 on unemployed benefit, 469 on sick benefit and 118 superannuated.

—Union No 2, Cincinnati Ohio, complains of that city being flooded with carpenters and many of them traveling brothers from other unions. of these travelers who come there other cities are "dead broke" vish aid from their fellow mem- by borrowing money. This prac- we condemn as we consider it t to be discouraged as we do not our members to be victimized as may be by these travelers. The remedy is don't lend them any ey! If you *do* it is at your own

CRAFTSMEN TAKE NOTICE.

The Brooklyn Labor Lyceum Association has issued a circular to the workingmen of the country. It states that the success of last year's industrial exhibition at the Labor Lyceum, Brooklyn, N. Y., and the support it received of labor organizations and working men in general, have induced the association to make arrangements for a similar exhibition this year, to take place at the Lyceum, from November 27 (Thanksgiving Day) to Sunday, December 7. It is the intention to have this exhibition bear exclusively the character of a Workingmen's Exhibition, as this is the only one of the kind that is conducted by workingmen, and inaugurates a new era in industrial exhibitions. Heretofore such affairs have been managed by the capitalists exclusively. Trades Unions wishing to have a joint exhibition of their members' handiwork will please notify the committee as early as convenient, stating full address and the object to be exhibited. There will be no charge for space, and all goods will be freely transported and insured. The proceeds are devoted to promote the educational purpots of the Labor Lyceum. Gold and silver medals and diplomas will be awarded for excellence in design and workmanship. Send to the Labor Lyceum, Brooklyn, N. Y., for further particulars.

SEVERE ON NON-UNION MEN.

There are some sledge hammer blows administered in the following from the *Chicago Inland Printer*: In reply to the claim so often put forward by non-union employes "I am receiving union wages," as a palliation for their treachery or truckling subserviency, we affirm that even were the statement true which is seldom, if ever, the case, it proves them to be petty thieves as well as cowards. They are sneaks enough to recognize a standard which they are doing their utmost to destroy, and appropriate, without acknowledgment or responsibility, what the pluck of true men have secured. How long would they receive, or their employers pay union wages were the unions wiped out of existence, and how long would they exist if their members were the cowardly, time-serving tools they (the non-unionists) have proven themselves to be? Employers may like the treason, but rest assured the traitor is estimated at his true value.

A MONSTROUS DOCTRINE.

If during a long voyage at sea one passenger should save up a cask of water, and the general supply at length became exhausted, and the ship's company were nearly crazed with thirst, the possessor of the only water on board could sit by his cask and say "Hands off unless you pay me a dollar a drop." It would be his property.

As the water monopolist on the ship has a right to use his own to the best advantage for himself, no matter how much suffering there may be around him, so the millionaires may continue without end to levy tribute from the people merely because they have acquired the power to do so.

What monstrous doctrine to preach to a community, the most of whom are struggling for a living.—*Stockton Mail.*

TRADE NOTES.

—A Carpenter's Union is talked of in Oshkosh, Wis.

—Grand Rapids Union No. 64 is booming along with great force.

—Washington Union No. 1 is increasing in membership with giant strides.

—The National Typographical Union of Germany has $70,000 in its Pension Fund for aged and disabled members.

—Union No. 9, Buffalo, N. Y., since its readmission is straining every nerve to build up to its old time standard, and with good prospects of success.

—JAMES S. MURCHIE, General Secretary of the Amalgated Capenters has been elected Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the British Trades Union Congress.

—Bro A. T. Penebsky, Financial Secretary of San Francisco Union No. 22, was badly injured by a fall from his work. A 5x8 timber fell upon his right hand and lacerated it badly.

—The organized workingmen of France, through the National Committee of the French Federation of Trades sent an address of fraternity to the annual Trades Union Congress in Aberdeen, Scotland.

—Union No. 8, Philadelphia, Pa., is thriving prosperously at the rate of twenty five new initiations each meeting, many old members reinstated, who have fallen into *arrears*. This is the fruits of Bro. Jas. Dey's work as Walking Delegate.

—Union No. 71, Raleigh, N. C., has chosen James O. Ruth as Deputy Organizer for North Carolina, and he is an active, energetic worker for our Brotherhood. Unfortunately he met with an accident recently through which he cut his fingers very severely.

—After a long struggle the Bricklayers of New York have at last closed their strike, having practically won the nine hour system on all except a few jobs. The Stone Cutters who were locked out for assisting the Bricklayers, have returned to work at their own terms.

—The Telegraphers are again organizing, and the name of their Society is the "Brotherhood of Telegraphers." This time they are trusting to themselves, and in doing so they are aware that they must pay high dues and establish a strong treasury, which will enable them to fight their own battles.

—*The Tocsin* is the title of a boycotting sheet issued in Philadelphia, and distributed gratuitously to fight the Philadelphia *Press* which is a non-union office. The strong sturdy hand of the indefatigable W. H. Foster is at the helm, and no doubt he will give the Quaker City some examples of the talent he displayed in the boycott on Murat Halstead's Cincinnati *Commercial*.

—The Carpenter's Union of Baltimore Md., has taken a very commendable step in correcting the evil of overcrowding the trade with hands. They have adopted a rule that no member of the Union will work on a job where apprentices are engaged who have left former employers without good and sufficient cause. This will stop the habit of boys going out as journeymen when they have acquired the art of handling a few tools.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post Office in Cleveland as second class matter.

CLEVELAND, NOVEMBER, 1884.

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG.

When earth produces free and fair,
The golden waxy corn;
When fruit and fruits perfume the air,
And fleecy flocks are shorn;
Whilst thousands move with aching head
And sing the ceaseless song:
"We starve, we die, oh give us bread!"
There must be something wrong.

When wealth is wrought as seasons roll
From off the fruitful soil;
When luxury, from its jaded pole
Heaps fruit of human toil;
When, from a thousand, one alone
In plenty rolls along
The coaches only grow the bone,—
There must be something wrong.

And when production never ends
The earth is yielding ever;
A copious harvest oft bedims,
But distribution severs;
When toiling millions toil to fill
The wealthy coffers strong,
When hands are crust'd with that work and till,
There must be something wrong.

When poor men's tables waste away
To barrenness and dearth,
There must be something in the way
That's worth the finding out;
With surfeit one event to bends,
While numbers move along,
With scarce a crust their board extends,
There MUST be something wrong:

[SELECTED.]

There is at the present time a delegate in this country from the workingmen of France, come for the purpose of examining into the condition of workingmen in this country, and then return and report the results of his observations.

The white and colored laborers of Washington, D. C., are greatly excited over the news that the sewer contractors have brought from New York 500 Italian, German and Swiss excavators who will work for 75 cents per day, under contract. The organized labor of Washington, D. C., are up in arms against the importation of this labor and are justly indignant at the answer of the District Commissioner who says he cannot interfere.

The Cincinnati Trades Assembly proposes to create a general strike fund under their jurisdiction, by levying an assessment of two cents per week on each member of the unions represented in that body. The question is submitted to the various unions interested for their decision.

If the workingmen of the country will keep an eye to business, in a few years a different state of affairs will exist from that of today. As time rolls by, the organized wage-workers of the country are becoming more enlightened on vital topics, and thereby becoming more rational, yet independent.—*Worcester Times.*

During the month of August the Cigar Makers' International Union spent a total of $3,585 to traveling members, $2,313 sick benefits, $360 death benefits, and $15 03 for strike benefits the latter to aid the men locked out in Cincinnati.

Free thought is forethought and therefore we must lay plans for the time to come. We must be conscious workers in the evolution of humanity. We must be the Providence of that new heaven of which science, day by day, is laying the strong foundations. We are to be the soldiers of nature, and through nature and nature's wealth we are to make man happy here and now, and crown his labor with the golden fruitage of a just reward, so that every worker shall have a home, and every child born upon this planet, a place to live, and a right to nature's bounty.—*Victor Hugo.*

The French noblesse were innocent in comparison with their American imitators. They believed in divine rights, ours believe only in the rights of fraud force, plunder and despotism. The first were "gentlemen," the last are bummers, gamblers, thieves and the scum of an imperfect civilization. *I. F. Bray.*

REPORT OF OUR DELEGATES TO THE LABOR CONGRESS.

To the Officers and Members of the Brotherhood:

BROTHERS—As Delegates representing your honorable body, we attended the Fourth Annual Session of the Trades Congress, held in Chicago, October 7th to 11th inclusive, and respectfully submit the following condensed report.

The deliberations of that body were marked by calm judgment, and discreet, sagacious action, which, in our humble opinion, stamps it as the future hope of American labor, and the safest conservator of the public peace. Its object and aim is to mitigate, as far as possible, many of the evils of organized society, and to secure to the toilers as much of the good as can be accomplished by wise forethought and intelligent action.

Several matters of interest to our craft were represented by your delegates and all of them received fair and due consideration. The one of most vital importance and worthy of special mention, is the enactment of a general *Eight Hour Law.* On and after a given day—May 1, 1886—all the Trades and Labor Societies are to inaugurate the Eight Hour System.

For the first time in the history of American Trades Unionism, has Labor undertaken the task of making its own law, and thus relieved the National Legislature of an embarrassment, from the lack of constitutional authority to establish a much needed and necessary reform. The considerations which prompted us to invade the dominion of the ruling class was a question as to whether it was not better to take the step of our own free will than to wait, in vain, for Legislatures and Congress to do that which the onward march of progress will force us to do for ourselves as a class without waiting for the intervention of the Government. In a country like ours there is no necessity for legislative interference when the organized wisdom of a trade can, and does, make customs that equally divide the benefits of good government and promote the welfare of its citizens.

We appeal to no political party, to no perverted, unhealthy public opinion; we bow to no noble lord to grant our humble petition, but, conscious of our inalienable rights, we have laid the cornerstone of the Monument to American Labor Independence by taking the matter in our own hands.

When the benign influence of this law is felt in our trades—when the benefits of its protection harmonizes the apparent conflict with capital—when lock-outs and enforced strikes become improbable, the American Carpenters, together with other trades, can point with satisfaction to the fourth year of the Trades Congress as a bright page in the history of our organizations.

We close our report with a brief mention of a practical plan for unifying the interests of labor, which will be submitted to you for action in the proceedings, under the title of "Organization," Sec. IX to which reference is made.

Hoping our humble efforts may meet with your approbation, we have the honor to remain

Your Obedient Servants,
G. EDMONSTON,
T. P. DORAN,
Delegates.

Endorsed by
J. P. MCGINLEY,
Delegate from Illinois State Federation.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners is one of the best managed Unions in existence. Their laws are submitted to popular vote, and if the laws are not good the members can only blame themselves, and not the delegates. I am told the system of popular voting works well in their Union, and is a means of educating the members in the principles and details of Trades Unionism.—*Joseph A. Labadie, in Washington Craftsman*

A synopsis of the workings of Union No. 58, Omaha, Neb., has been sent by that body to some of the obstinate bosses of non-union shops, so they may see for themselves that our principles are just and fair.

THE RAILROAD CONDUCTORS' CONVENTION.

The seventeenth annual convention of the Order of Railway Conductors was held in Boston recently, 200 delegates present. The Order of Railway Conductors is a secret organization, founded in 1867 and already numbering upward of 6,000 members, scattered all over the United States and Canada, though its principal strength is in New York, Iowa and Illinois. In connection with the Order there is a benefit department which members can join if they desire it; it is on the mutual assessment plan, the limit of benefit having been fixed at $2,000, payable in case of death or permanent disability such as the loss of eyesight, or arm, or leg, etc. At present the benefit department has a membership of 1,260. A monthly magazine, the Railway Conductors' Monthly, is published in the interest of the Order. The organization consists of 153 subordinate divisions and a grand division, composed of delegates from the subordinate divisions. Sixty one new divisions have been organized during the year by a special organizer who is steadily in the field. The organization has sprung from 25 divisions, 825 members and $2,000 in debt four years ago, to 153 divisions and a surplus in the treasury of $4,144 68, today.

POINTS FROM LONDON "JUSTICE."

Who makes your "laws"? Most of the men who make them are those whose income depends upon their being broken.

Several philanthropists have died this week. They all left large fortunes.

The capitalist is the only slave driver who ever persuaded his slave that he was free.

We are under the threefold dominion of the bayonet, the bond-holder and the spy.

Alms are twice cursed, disgracing him that gives and him that takes; and even the sincerest "charity" is in essence, little better than the cunning sham that apes it.

Forms signify nothing and names even less, while the tyranny of Capitalism, Landlordism and Militarism are allowed to endure.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC AGITATION.

The September Report of the Amalgamated Carpenters contained an able article on the "Necessity of Agitation," and here it is:

Having watched the efforts of labor organizations for the past ten or twelve years, in their endeavors to improve the social standing of the workingman, in their endeavors to obtain for labor a just proportion of the wealth which labor was creating, I fail to see in the results a full realization of our expectations. With the inventive genius of man ever contriving to improve machinery, so as to lessen the cost of production, we have arrived at such a state of perfection in labor saving machinery, without any equivalent being given to the workman for the labor of which he is thus deprived (the equivalent for which must be a reduction of the hours of labor), that there is a continual and ever increasing glut upon the labor market. An increasing glut means less work for the average workman, and, as our wages are no better to-day than they were ten or twelve years since, and in England are even less, with more men out of employment, our average earnings are consequently less, and that at a time when rent, which is the natural product of our labor, is higher than ever it was before.

Not only rent, but every other marketable article, has advanced in price within the time of which I speak, labor alone excepted, the price of which has had a downward tendency. All this time capital has been steadily piling millions upon millions, thereby strengthening its avaricious and remorseless grip upon the defenseless throat of pauperized labor, until the very breath of independence has been stifled in the workingmen of free America. There is not a boss in the building trade today (or any other trade) that does not wield the power of a despot over his employes. What employer has not the power to fine any of his average workmen from twenty to fifty dollars?—a power which they are not slow to avail themselves of if the workman does but contradict *them* or assert that he is right, if the *boss* has once said he was wrong. Have not the employers power to discomploy any workman, at a moment's notice, for the most trival fault, or for no fault at all, only to gratify a caprice of the moment and make others afraid of him, well knowing that he can, without trouble or delay, supply the want thus created from the ranks of those who have been for weeks vainly seeking work? I hold that he is a lucky man who can find employment in less time than from one to three, four or even five weeks; and is this not equivalent to inflicting a fine of just as much as you have lost through being idle? Nearly, if not quite, one-fourth of the skilled labor of the building trade to-day is vainly seeking employment, bidding against one another for a chance to be allowed to work.

If men are reduced, by the surplus of labor in the market, to the degradation of offering their services for less than others are working for, so as to procure work, and if capital can only employ three-fourths of the labor in the market in these years of activity and prosperity, to what stage of misery and suffering will workmen and those depending on them be reduced when over-production has done its work? Is our existence doomed to a perpetual struggle, not to acquire wealth, but to keep the wolf from the door? Is the lot of workmen to be ever, in good times, just enough to live on; in bad times, want, distress and suffering?

Taking all things into consideration, I hold that trade societies have done simply nothing in comparison with what they might and ought to have accomplished, and all owing to the narrow-mindedness of some, the apathy of many, and the parsimony of all. What we want is agitation. If you want to convince a man that you are right, you must show him that you are so by reason. You cannot reason with him if you cannot see him or he can't hear you; and as these non-Union men will not enter into the sanctuary of your club rooms, there is nothing left for us to do but to hold public meetings, in season and out of season.

If we wish to make converts to the faith or principle of unity, we must preach the gospel of unity; not in your club rooms, where the congregation is composed of men already converted, but in public halls and open-air meetings, where your voice may reach the ear and carry enlightenment and conviction to the mind of the ungodly unbelievers in unity among men. To be successful in our efforts to unite labor, we must be natural; we must prepare the ground before we sow the seed, and we must plant the seed before we can gather the harvest. Our uncultivated ground is the workmen ignorant of the benefits to be derived from united action; the preparation of that ground is the calling of these men together in public meetings and our seed is the light of intelligence and the power of unity to be sown among them by our own society labors—seed that, if properly nurtured by exertion and perseverance, will yield to labor organizations a harvest of recruits that will well repay them both time and money spent to accomplish one of the grandest objects, but one of the most difficult on earth—the emancipation of labor from the degrading influence of monopoly.

PATRICK SCULLIN.

—We see no good reason why any wage worker should be tied to any political party. No political party has done anything for the wage workers. Whatever has been accomplished is entirely due to organized effort and the friendly efforts of individuals.—*Patterson Labor Standard.*

UNION SONG.

"'Tis Union forever" let this be our cry,
As onward we march to the victory that's nigh,
Cheer up brother workers, and keep to the right,
Gird on your armor 'tis liberty's fight.

No longer shall workers be ground to the dust,
Conquer we will and conquer we must,
Cheerily march, for your freedom and life,
Will surely be gained, if you win in the strife.

Then "Union Forever," all true men will cry,
March forward! in battle to do or to die,
For Labor's cause, bravely our union doth stand
Fighting 'gainst Capital's iron-gloved hand.

"The Union Forever" our motto shall be,
'Twill strengthen us, aid us, at last set us free,
Then cheerily brothers, march on to the fray,
Till o'er the horizon, breaks Freedom's bright day.

Quincy, Mass. —*L. B. D.*

THE TRAMP "NUISANCE."

We frequently read articles in the daily papers under this heading, but they never go deeper into the matter than to pronounce a few imprecations upon the head of the unfortunate tramp. Why do they not inquire into the cause of this "nuisance," and why do they not give us a history of it and suggest a remedy. This, no doubt, would be too much trouble for them.

This is exactly what I propose to undertake, and, in a measure, to accomplish.

First, we may take it for granted that there is such a thing as the Tramp "Nuisance," and, having arrived at that conclusion, the next thing to consider is *The Cause*.

This, I apprehend, is the most difficult part of the subject, for the reason that there are several causes. And I can not go into the merits or demerits of the many causes that exist, but must content myself with briefly considering a few of the more prominent ones.

Of these various causes, the first and most prominant of all, is, undisputably, the progressive age in which we live. We are now in the midst of an age of invention, such as the world never saw before. And we are harvesting the ripe fruits of the age, on every hand, in the productions of the Sewing Machine, the Planing Machine, the Threshing Machine, the Reaper, and other good and useful inventions. And among modern inventions is the Tramp. I speak of the Tramp here as a modern invention and a labor saving machine. That he is a modern invention will not be disputed, for we had no Tramps in the United States before the war. And, as the full fledged Tramp will not work, he thus demonstrates the fact that he saves the work of one man himself, at least.

I am not advocating or denying his good and useful qualities, but I will state that he is the only labor saving machine that capital deprecates. Here, in California, the harvest system is a very prolific source of Tramp making. Every Tramp has to be made a Tramp before he is one. No man is born a Tramp, and no man can enjoy the life of a Tramp until he becomes confirmed therein. So it will be seen that there are several stages in Tramp life, from the first necessity to the full fruition.

Well, in California the harvest hand experiences the first necessity. Farmers, (or Ranchers, as they are called,) want what they call "blanket men," —men who will carry their blankets, or bed, on their backs, wherever they go, and make their bed wherever night overtakes them. Ranchers do not expect to provide houses and beds and the common comforts of civilization for their help. They expect to feed them and pay them, and when they have done that they think their whole duty to their fellow man is done, and well done.

In fact, the employe has the happy privilege of making his bed on the ranch most any where away from the house, or not making it at all, as suits him best. In short, he may sleep, or not, as he likes, so he does a good day's work next day. Blessed privilege! So the man, (for he was a man,) by force of circumstances becomes a Tramp, in the first stage of the disease, not all of them, to be sure, but very many, and very many more than unthinking men are aware of. And how can it be otherwise when a man is not treated as a man, but as a machine, a contrivance to serve a temporary purpose, and suit a selfish end; in short, a modern invention, a Tramp, in the first stage.

There has been a great deal said about the climate of California, but probably this has been forgotten. California's climate is peculiarly favorable for Tramps for at least five months of the year, sometimes longer. This present season has been a notable exception, however, for the rainy season continued much longer than usual, or till late into June. Last year was also considered an exception, with much rain in May. On the coast the weather is generally cool in Autumn, but in the interior through all the great farming valleys it is hot enough, both night and day, so the poor Tramp seldom suffers from cold or wet from May to November. O glorious California!

It will be seen from the above that the rancher in California prefers Tramps, in the first stage of tramphood, to that of any other help, but as the first glass is a start to the life of the drunkard, so the first stage is a step to the second, and so on to the complete labor saving machine, a full fledged Tramp! How can men help becoming Tramps under such a system? It is impossible and probably no man will be so rash as to dispute it.

There are many other causes of the evil; different causes in different parts of the country; local causes, and perhaps political causes, which we can not take time to discuss now, as we have yet to find a remedy for the evil and I must be brief.

I am aware of the fact that there is much that might be said on the other side, regarding labor saving machinery, that all of this begets wealth, and wealth creates labor, and so on, all of which and much more, I admit and advocate, for I wish to be considered fair and candid, but I am forced to the conclusion that improvements throw ten men out of employment where they create work for two. The odds are nearly all in favor of the machine. Just think of it, two men provided with work and ten Tramps made by one and the same means. This is a serious matter, and there must and will be a reaction some time, some where. This country is too vast in territory and resources to feel the burden right away, but unless the evil is remedied, the time will come, and is even now on the way, when the people will rise up against it, and assert their rights! We may be long suffering, but there comes a time in human events when forbearance ceases to be a virtue. Let us hope that that time may never come, but that all of our grievances may be adjusted with judgment and reason, and pacific measures be used.

At one time in the history of Salt Lake City, Brigham Young saw a very threatening evil springing up and hanging over his beloved Zion, in the presence of an exceedingly hard time, and many idle men among the saints, as well as the then Gentile population But Brigham was a shrewd man and equal to the emergency. He knew that several hundred idle men, without means, was a greater cause for alarm, more to be feared than all of the Indians in Utah, But he made his followers believe that they were in danger of an attack by the Indians, and he had a two fold object in doing so; one to avert the danger of lawlessness which threatened them, and the other to provide them with the means of subsistence, without making beggars of them, both very laudable for an old "Polig." So he set them to work making a mud or adobe wall partly around the city, ostensibly to fortify it against the expected attack, or pretended expectation, for he knew there was no danger from such a source, but he accomplished his purpose, which suited him very well. He paid the men just enough to live on with great economy, but they worked cheerfully as they had a two-fold object in doing so. They were making a living by it, and also, (as they thought,) were fortifying themselves against an enemy, and so were guarding their own homes. Suffice it further to say, that no enemy ever showed up, though it is said that a part of that fort still stands. I have related the above as an illustration, and the application will be seen. We have now an ever increasing army of Tramps in nearly all sections of our favored country, and the question arises, what are we going to do with them? The answer is simple and easy. Set them all to work! Or at least all who have not become labor saving machines —full fledged Tramps. Fred Douglass, when discussing the Chinese problem, said the question arose as to what we should do with them if they kept coming, but, said he, we'd better ask what may they not do with us? Just so with the Tramp, if we keep on as we are going. We must change our tactics or finally suffer the consequences of having pursued a wrong policy. Which is the most proper question: What are we going to do with them? or, What may they not do with us?

Just set them to work and the Tramp problem is solved. Every man who does not work in some way is nonproductive, and must live, if at all, off from those that do, and all of those Tramps are now a dead weight on the producers. Set them to work, and immediately they are more than self-sustaining, and the burden is not only lifted, but a surplus of something is added to the world's wealth. But we always have growlers amongst us, and they will ask how we are to do it, and without any attempt at reason will declare it is impossible, and urge that we have not got work enough for those who are willing to work now, just as if it would cost more to keep ten million working men in the country, with all of them at work, than it would with five or ten per cent of them idle, whereas, it will certainly cost less if they are all at work.

But how? Well, if you are an employer and have say ten men at work for you for ten hours a day, just put on one more man and work nine hours a day, and if that principle is carried out every Tramp in the country who is willing to work can go at it, and the whole country will be greatly benefitted by the change. But if necessary put on two more men, and work eight hours per day, and still all will be benefitted, and no one suffer more than possibly a temporary inconvenience.

Now, in conclusion, I would say to employers and capitalists the experiment is worth trying, and well trying. And to the employers I would say that supply and demand will regulate the wages to your profit in time, so do not stand in your own light, but meet the capitalist half way, establish the time first and the hours will soon adjust themselves, and do not consider any effort on your part to bring about the desired end too much trouble, or a little expense worth a second thought. The subject is too important and the end in view promises too much reward to be delayed by lack of effort on our part, or by any unwillingness to meet any reasonable expense to accomplish so great an object. But we must be patient, and may we never cease to be hopeful.

No object is too great for us to overcome if we are united, and willing to be reasonable.

S. V. R. TUTHILL.

OMAHA BOYCOTTERS.

Boycotting has scored another victory! The Omaha *Bee* has become a union office after weeks of boycotting under pressure of the united efforts of the trades unions of that city. Omaha Carpenters Union, No. 58, played no minor role in the struggle. The strangest anomoly of the difficulty was the formation of a society of non union men employed on the *Bee*. They were opposed to the printers union because they had no sympthy with the principles of organization among workingmen, but they organized as non-union men in order to protect themselves from the petty impositions practiced by their foremen and employers. This in the end led to a strike of the non-union men and now the office has become a union one.

SHORTEN THE WORKING DAY.

In my opinion as a worker, observes a writer in London *Justice*, the reduction of the working day is by far the most important thing, being the key to the economical position, since it is by the overwork of the producers that the surplus value is created upon which the idlers live, and as long as two or three millions of workers are content to produce sufficient wealth to support thirty or forty millions of people, so long must there be idlers, whether these idlers live in workhouses, hovels, or palaces.

The difficulty is that a great many men are prepared to resent any curtailment of the working time. "We earn little enough now," they say; "if you shorten our time we shall earn still less," and it seems to them the most natural thing in the world that they should work ten or twelve hours a day and six or seven days a week for a subsistence, even although they see the results of their unpaid labor piled up into enormous fortunes in the hands of landlord and capitalist, while thousands of their fellows are starving in idleness forced on them in consequenc of this same unpaid labor.

I ask my fellow workers to remember this, that those who work the longest get paid the least, and that while we get a bare subsistence wage for ten or twelve hours' work, we should get no less for seven or eight hours, if that was the normal day, and we should get no more for fifteen or twenty if such were our working hours.

No time could be more favorable than the present for agitating a reduction of the hours and carrying it out. Everywhere the markets are glutted in consequence of over-production, everywhere men are being discharged from their employment, or having their wages reduced; what more just and fair, then, than to demand a reduction of the working day?

A WORD TO ABSENTEES.

This sage advice offered by Troy *Pluck* also applies to Carpenters. One great cause of weakness in subordinate Unions is the apathy shown by their members. There are many men who think their whole duty to the Union is accomplished when their dues are paid. Indeed, many seem to think that a Union card entitles them to partial support without effort on their part. We have known many good printers, and we would not question their Unionism, who have never been to a Union meeting since they signed the constitution. We know that in the majority of cases this duty is not neglected from want of principle, but is the result of carelessness or apathy.

"What good would it do me for to go? I couldn't say anything," they say, and they speak derogatory to their own power and influence. Every member, however humble, has an influence, and it would be felt at the meetings, did he honor them with his presence. He has his vote at least. Many harmful measures are carried through the unions which are not the voice of a majority of its members, although the sentiment of a majority of those present. In many unions a fine is imposed for non-attendance at union meetings. In smaller unions this is practicable, but would work to the detriment of organizations of a larger growth. Every man should feel it his duty to attend on all occasions and do his best to promote the welfare of his own Union, and spread the knowledge of Union principles wherever there is sufficient moral soil for them to take root. The spread of Union principles, a knowledge of Union methods, is our salvation, and the country districts should be flooded with Union literature. Again we urge absent printers to make themselves conspicuous in meetings, and become at least on speaking terms with the doorkeeper.

—Every hour taken off the labor day of the working classes means that the idle will have to forego the amount of material wealth that hour's work would have produced; or, if they will not forgoe it, they will have to create it by their own labor.—*London Justice.*

THE CARPENTER

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Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O

CLEVELAND, NOVEMBER, 1884.

NEW HEADQUARTERS.

The office of THE CARPENTER and and headquarters of the Brotherhood are removed from New York and now are located in Cleveland, Ohio. In future all communications should be addressed to P. J. McGuire, Lock Box 180, Cleveland, Ohio. We ask the indulgence of our friends for any delay in business as our removal here upset matters for awhile very considerably. Our new Executive Board is elected and at work as can be seen by its reports in this issue.

—Our Brotherhood has been highly honored by the Federation of Trades in choosing G. Edmondston, Washington, D. C., as Secretary of their Legislative Committee

—Why should not workers struggle all the year round for Trades Unions as some of them do for politics before elections. If they did there would be a different tale to tell of their condition.

—All monies to this office should be sent by Bank Check, Post Office Money Order, Postal Note or Registered Letter. We are not responsible for monies sent in any other manner.

—This month we charter two new unions No. 76, New Orleans, La, (white) and No. 77 Battle Creek, Mich. and Detroit Union No. 10 is reorganized with a good set of live officers and a roll of earnest members.

—Ask for the Union Label Cigar if you are in the habit of smoking. Why not support Union-made goods? The Union Label on cigars is an evidence that the labor in them has been paid Union wages, and that they are not made in filthy tenement houses or by Chinese.

—Bros. Edmonston and Doran, our delegates to the Congress of the Federation of Trades, made themselves very influential in securing the passage of the Eight Hour Measure, and other important resolutions. In this they were ably assisted by our ex-President, Bro. J. P. McGinley. We are compelled to omit a full report of the work of this Congress for a want of space this month.

—We are nearing Thanksgiving, and the time honored custom of issuing high-sounding Thanksgiving Proclamations of our prosperity and happiness is well observed by the President and Governors of States. But to the thousands out of work, and to the many thousands more who are on short time and scanty wages, this will seem a hollow mockery. If there is anything we should give thanks for, it is that wherever we have been well organized we have been able to save our wages from being cut down.

THE RESULT OF THE NOVEMBER ELECTION.

The die is cast and the agony will soon be over! How much better the workingmen's condition will be on account of the election is not difficult of conjecture! That it will alter the relations between Capital and Labor, so as to give men steadier work with good pay and short hours no thinking man will contend. The workmon will still be at the mercy of the employer save only where he is organized with his fellows in trades unions. This is the only protection he has. It is the only legislative body that looks after his interests, it is the only one through which he can hope to advance his condition in life and secure his family from want and beggary.

Now after the glare and flare of the political campaign is over we will hear but very little of the "poor" workingman. The daily papers and political spouters who rivalled each other in professions of friendship for him, are not now likely to turn to the advocacy of trades unions and labor measures in his behalf. The very first strike will find these politicians and journals standing on the side of capital, clamoring for police and military interference. The workingman has served a purpose and is done for the present.

But there is one consolation in this campaign that wherever organized labor has asserted itself, it has helped its friends and defeated its enemies. Over fierce opposition it has elected regardless of party a few men with trades union antecedents to Congress, such as Foran, of Ohio and Farquar of New York. And in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Missouri and other States it has chosen a few trades unionists to the State Legislatures. At most, the election of these men as labor men is a recognition of the growing force of this great movement. And if in no other respect, it at least serves as an educational power in bringing forward labor issues for discussion.

The late election has given a powerful impetus to the work of boycotting. In Pennsylvania, trades union men to the number of thousands, stripped themselves of party and scratched Calvin Wells, a Presidential elector, because he refused to hire union men. And on every hand it is granted that the boycott of the N. Y. *Tribune* for breaking faith with the printers lost New York State to the Republicans. Even the New York *Sun* admits this. If Blaine lost New York and the Presidency with it he may thank Whitelaw Reid and his "rat" *Tribune* for the result. And this in itself is a fearful lesson to all politicians.

THROWING DUST IN OUR EYES.

Some business men for partisan and selfish purposes are disharging men, reducing wages and talking wildly of the terrible dangers threatening the country by the possibility of a change in the tariff. There is nothing to fear in that direction as the monied interests as ever have a grip on Congress and they will see no adverse legislation occurs to disturb their vested rights.

The whole trouble is we are reaching the length of our industrial rope and we are in the face of a severe panic, produced by want of system in our methods of production and exchange. Everything has been done hap-hazard and without regard for markets. The workers being kept on paupers' pay could not buy back only a small part of their own production. Hence the anomally at times of "over production." And thus prices are tumbling and confidence is shaken and we are confronted with the possibilities of a panic.

This is likely to occur and recur even if there were never an election, as long as the workers are not paid enough to make home markets.

Business men and employers seem incompetent to meet the situation and they know the cause. Hence they are throwing political dust in the eyes of the people to divert their attention from the real economic causes. When the working people organize thoroughly and comprehend these causes they will not be fooled by any political quackery.

RESULT OF THE GENERAL VOTE ON THE CONSTITUTION.

To the Officers and Members of the Brotherhood:

The work of counting the votes cast for and against the amendments to the Constitution, adopted by the Fourth Annual Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 5, 1884, was referred to the Board of Trustees, located in Philadelphia, Pa., and they delegated their powers to the new Executive Board, located at Cleveland, Ohio. Said Executive Board, composed of the undersigned members, have examined the returns of votes from the local Unions on the amendments to the Constitution, and beg leave to report as follows:

We have carefully examined the returns and certify that the vote is so voluminous, the number of sections being so many, that to present the detailed vote on each section in tabular form from each Union would be very expensive to print, hence we simply present a summary of the vote for and against the principal sections of the Constitution as amended. Twenty-nine Unions in all sent in returns, the balance of the Unions having sent in letters endorsing the work of the Convention, or have abstained from voting through neglect or delay.

The highest vote polled on any one section was a total of 969 votes. This was on Art. 1, Sec. 3, there being 939 votes in favor and 30 against. The largest vote in opposition to any of the sections was as follows:

Article 1, Section 6, 723 votes for 229 against; Art. 2, Sec. 1, 812 votes for and 142 against; Art. 8, Sec. 2, 882 votes for and 72 against; Art. 8, Sec 11, 821 votes for and 73 against: Art 9, Sec. 1, 719 for and 131 against; Art. 11 Sec. 1, 814 votes for and 50 against; Art. 11, Sec. 6, 803 for and 59 against Local Rules—Art 11 Sec 2, 809 votes for and 50 against.

We simply state the negative vote where it has numbered a total of 50 or more votes. Charleston Union No. 52 voted unanimously against Art. 1, Sec 6, casting 130 votes in opposition. Alameda Union No. 47 cast a unanimous vote of 13 and Denver Union No. 55 cast 22 votes unanimously against Art. 2, Sec 1

Hamilton Union No. 18 cast a unanimous vote of 15, and Alameda Union No 47 cast 13 votes unanimously against Art. 8 Sec. 11. Unions No. 38 and No. 55 voted unanimously against Art. 9, Sec. 1.

In view of the fact that all of the sections of the Coustitution as amended have received more than the necessary two-thirds vote required by the Constitution, we therefore declare that they are adopted and do now become the law of the Brotherhood.

Signed, Yours Fraternally,
J. C. LARWILL,
H. N FISHER,
H. J BAILEY,
W B. KETTERINGHAM,
D. McINTOSH,
Executive Board.

Attest: P. J. McGUIRE,
General Secretary.

ORGANIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

At a regular meeting of Carpenters' Union, No. 11, Cleveland, O., Oct. 21, 1884, the members proceeded to the election of a General Treasurer and five members to act as the Executive Board of the Brotherhood in conformity with the constitution. D. F. Sleeper was elected Gen. Treas., and the following as the Executive Board:—J. C. Larwill, 1175 First Ave; H. N. Fisher, 41 William st; H. J. Bailey, 323 Detroit st.; D. McIntosh, 33 Dare st., West Side; W. B. Ketteringham, 2 Crown st., South Side. All of these members are resident in this city.

OCT. 29—The Board was duly installed and organized by electing J. C. Larwill, chairman and H. N. Fisher as clerk.

NOV. 8—The Board took action on the various bids for printing, and appointed a committee to arrange for the incorporation of the Board and decided to print a synopsis of their proceedings regularly in THE CARPENTER. After the incorporation of the Board bonds will be prepared for the General Secretary and General Treasurer. Meanwhile the General Secretary remains under his present bond, and all monies should be sent to him until further notice.

NOV. 11—The Board counted the vote on the amendments to the constitution, with the result as appended.

NOV 12—The Board granted applications for charters as follows:—New Orleans (white) Union No. 76; Battle Creek Mich., Union No 77. In regard to a difficulty in San Rafael Union No. 35, S. H. Kiler was granted 18 days time from date to send in his statement. It was resolved that in applying for death benefits, the unions shall send to the G. S. the name, age and residence of the deceased, cause and date of death *and date of initiation into the Brotherhood.* Applications for death benefits from San Rafael Union No 35, and San Francisco Union No. 22 were referred back to those unions to comply with the above rule It was decided to secure legal advice in regard to copyrighting the emblem of the B. The appeal from St. Louis Union No. 5, to aid it in orgahizing that city was laid over for one week. The case of application for a charter for a German union in Chicago, was laid over awaiting a reply, officially, from Union No. 21. *Adjourned.*

AN ERROR CORRECTED.

Two weeks ago we unwittingly accused the Brotherhood of Carpenters of establishing a rule under which their members were excluded from membership in other trades unions. We are now reliably informed that it is the Association of Amalgamated Carpenters who have such a law in force, and we hasten to correct the injustice done the Brotherhood. At the time our advice was that it was the Brotherhood, and we are happy to know that this great Trades Union is relieved of the odium. Yet of the Amalgamated Carpenters we say as we did two weeks ago, that such an order is tyrannical and should be repealed.—*Pittsburgh Labor Herald.*

—Let each one of the General Vice Presidents of this Brotherhood strive to organize a few new unions this year. The first step is to enter into correspondence with the towns in the immediate vicinity or in the State in which they reside. Stir them up to act and push on the work.

—It looks as if the cigar manufacturers have influenced the general term of the Supreme Court of New York to decide as they did, that the tenement house law, lately passed in the legislature, is unconstitutional. This is the second time the courts have decided against legislation to remove these pestholes of tenement house cigar factories in New York. But still undaunted the cigar makers propose to continue the fight, and will now carry the case to the Court of Appeals.

AN EMPLOYER WE … REDUCED NO … IN … KERS. … ion.

BEST SECURITY AND PROTECTION.
Judge Thomas M. Cooley of the Su-

FEELINGS OF A SCAB.
We would like to know the thought

General Officers of the Brotherhood.

General President—J. F. Billingsley, 322 13th St., S.W. Washington, D. C.

General Secretary—P. J. McGuire, Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1st Vice President—R. Stephens, 937 Campbell St., Oakland, Cal.

2d Vice President—W. J. Shields, Cheshire St., Jamaica Plains, Boston, Mass.

3d Vice President—Gus Brethauer, 16 Grant St., Cincinnati, O.

4th Vice President—F. E. Rames, 16 Bogard St., Charleston, S. C.

5th Vice President—L. J. Boyer, 401 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

6th Vice President—C. W. Green, 1313 Capital Ave., Omaha, Neb.

7th Vice President—Alex Edgar, 20 Henry St., Toronto, Canada.

8th Vice President—Wm. F. Eberhardt, 2046 N. 29th St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Corresponding Secretaries.

(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members and particularly for the benefit of our traveling brothers)

Alameda, Cal—John J. Boyle.
Alleghany City, Pa.—Thos. Cummings, 13 Lombard St.
Albany, N. Y.—Wendel Hans, 216 Morton St.
Baltimore, Md.—I. B. Aylsworth, 684 Pennsylvania Ave.
Boston, Mass—W. T. McCormack, Boylston Ave, Ward 23., Jamaica Plains.
Benecia, Cal—J. H. Ostello.
Brooklyn, N. Y.—A. Turnbull, 63 Lawrence st.
Buffalo, N. Y.—Chas. G King, 147 Johnson st.
Charleston, S. C.—W. H. Burgess, 5 Jasper Court.
Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.—G. A. Bittner, Box 2168.
Chicago, Ill.—Thos. P. Doran, 105 Sigel St.
Cincinnati, O.—John Valerius, 288 Wade St.
Cleveland, O.—D. F, Sleeper, 41 William St. 6th Ward.
Columbus, O—M. J. Meers, 169 McCoy st.
Council Bluffs, Iowa.—F. E. Barr, 722 Mill st.
Covington, Ky.—M. Wagner, 195 East 13 St.
Denver, Col.—J. D. Bailey, 275 Antelope St.
Des Moines, Ia.—Henry Loveland, 309, 9th st.
Detroit, Mich.—C. F. Schimdt, 224 High St. West.
Englewood, Ill.—L D. Schlipp, Box 322
Fall River, Mass.—P. Doyle, 42 Mason St.
Guelph, Can.—David Adam, Wellington st.
Germantown, Pa.—(Branch I, Union No 8.) James O'Brien, cor Woodbine Ave. and Chew St.
Grand Rapids, Mich.—J. M Hall 46 Clark st.
Hartford Conn.—D. Geddie, 425 Main St.
Halifax, Nova Scotia.—John Saxton, 76 Birmingham St.
Hamilton, Can.—E. Hancock, Bay st., North.
Hammond, Ind.—F. Hohman.
Houston, Tex.—W. C. Ranft, cor. Preston and Travis sts.
Humboldt, Ill., Town of Jefferson.—Aug. Krause, Box 287.
Indianapolis, Ind—A. H. Haines, 520 East Ohio St.
Kansas City, Mo.—J. C. Egly 1004 Julia Ave.
Kensington Ill.—C. Gibson, Box 130.
Leavenworth, Kan.—T F. McLaughlin, 710 Delaware steeet.
Los Angelos, Cal.—J. Wesley Wilson, 209 E. 5th St.
Memphis, Tenn,—Thos. A Murray, 284 3d St.
Middletown, O.—P. S. Williamson.
Milwaukee, Wis—G. G. Suelflohn, 741 Booth street.
Morris Minn.—P. A. McCarthy, Box 146.
Nashville, Tenn.—A. D Shegog, 705 Fatherland street.
Newark, N. J.—D Murphy, 20 Morton St.
New Haven, Conn.—Room 23, Insurance Building, Chapel St.
New York, N. Y—A McIsaacs, 2070 2nd Ave.
New Orleans, La.—W. Barnes, care of T. M. Smith, 215 South Liberty st.
New Tacoma, Washington Ter.—S. D. Garrison
Oakland, Cal.—R. Stephens, 937 Campbell st.
Omaha, Neb.—W. J. Reeves 2317 Davenport st.
Paterson, N. J.—Labor Standard Office.
Pensacola, Fla.—J. S. Daniels Box 661.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Saml. B. Reeves, 1030 Pine Street.
Pittsburgh, Pa.—D Crawford, 265 Webster Avenue.
Providence, R. I.—O. L Paine, 39 Fifield Ave
Portland, Oregon.—Gordon Smart, 213 Montgomery St.
Raleigh, N. C.—Jas O. Ruth, 510 N. West st.
Rushville, Ind.—J. C Gregg, Box 553.
Rochester, N. Y.—E. M. Blakeslee, 14 Edmonds street.
San Francisco, Cal.—J. D. Campbell, 517 Hayes St.
San Rafael, Cal.—R. C. Sands, Box 677.
St. Catherines, Canada.—H. Bald, Gen'l Delivery.
St. Louis, Mo.—C. Heep, 1217 Lucas Ave.
Santa Rosa, Cal.—J. Alex Thomson.
Seattle, Wash. Ter.—J. F. Byrne, care of A. B. Stewart.
Savannah, Ga.—Benj. R Young, 5 Pendergast and Jones Lane.
Syracuse, N. Y.—J. G. Snyder, 75 Oswego st.
Toledo, O.—M. J. Thomson, 72 Hewey St.
Toronto, Can.—Alex. Edgar, 20 Henry street.
Trenton, N. J.—Joseph H. Appleton, 50 Lamberton St.
Troy, N Y.—M Richardson, 24 Liberty stret.
Utica, N. Y.—James H. Donaldson, 100 Seymour Ave.
Victoria, Brit. Col.—G. D. Roper, Box 323.
Washington, D. C.—R. L. Fowler, 901 24th St., N. W.
Wheeling W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 South Huron St.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Guelph, Canada.

Trade is very dull the only work is a little repairs for the Winter and Union No. 46 is still holding up the banner of the Brotherhood.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52, is still striving upwards, we have initiated several new members and have several applications for membership. Work here has taken another start and ten hours is still ruling; the cost of living is very high and owing to election excitement, work is not as brisk as it should be.

Correspondence From Germany.

BERLIN, Oct. 28, 1884.—A conference of delegates from the carpenters unions of South Germany was held in Mannheim, Oct. 19-21, and was well attended. The National Union of Carpenters, of Germany, now numbers 3 700 members and new unions are added continually. In Hamburg there is a strike of carpenters in one of the large shops against a reduction in wages.

Pensacola, Fla.

Business is just middling; wages $2 to $3 per day.

Boston, Mass.

Work fair; wages $2.50 to $3. Our recent entertainment netted a handsome surplus Our annual ball will take place Nov. 13. All union men are at work, though many men are idle.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Trade is fair, all union men are at work; wages are on an average $2.50 per day, sixty hours per week. A Presbyterian church is in course of erection, the foundation for our government building is under way, we have not been able to learn the particulars about it but we understand it is to be let out at contract. The class of work is improving and the bosses are getting more particular about the class of men they employ We intend to commence gathering statistics as soon as we can for a report.

Berkeley, Cal.

I like Bro. Edmonston's suggestion, that of setting a time well in advance, when all labor organization shall make a united effort to secure a shorter day, but that is putting it too mildly; I should say a positive demand, and a bold stand. But I think we will be more certain of success if we make the demand for nine hours on May 1st (his date) 1886 with the general understanding that the time be reduced to eight hours on May 1st, 1890. The dry goods clerks, boot and shoe clerks and the hatters have fallen into organization here for shorter hours and have got several stores to close early. I see the bank clerks in London are making a break for shorter hours, surely it is time the mechanics had it. Keep on blowing the short day trumpet! That is melody above all other music.

Chicago, Ill.

At the meeting of Branch 1, Thursday Sept. 5th, we were waited upon by a committee from the Stove Moulders Union and addresses were made by Geo. Rogers and Mr. James, relative to the Moulders' strike at Crebben, Sexton & C. in this city which has been in progress since April 28, against an unjust cut in their wages of 15 per cent. The firm withheld $15 to $24 on the plea that the cut was to date from 8 weeks before they gave any notice to the men. The firm in question has behaved in a most cowardly and brutal manner towards their employes during the strike. On one occasion, one of the firm (Mr. Crebben) rushed into the street and brutally assaulted an unoffending union man for which he was arrested and fined. On Wednesday, August 13, 1884, the scabs, while being escorted by the police to their homes, took a deliberate stand on Desplaines Street near Hubbard, and in cold blood foully murdered one Henry Heck, an inoffensive workman, recently from Battle Creek, Mich. At the coroner's inquest the fact was elicited that Cribben, Sexton & Co. had put into the hands of their employes revolvers for the direct purpose of shooting members of the Union. Fourteen were held to the Grand Jury and will have a hearing at the next session The coroner's jury severely censured Cribben, Sexton & Co The committee asked all carpenters and men in the building trades to boycott all hardware dealers who sell goods manufactured by Cribben, Sexton & Co. The names of their stoves are "Universal," Perfect" and "Elegant" We hope all union men will boycott all hardware dealers who sell goods manufactured by a firm who hire a lot of scabs that shoot down peaceful citizens in cold blood.

While Nature lay in common and all her benefits were promiscuously enjoyed, what could be happier than the state of mankind, when man lived without averice or envy? What could be richer, than when there was not a poor man to be found in the world? So soon as this impartial bounty of Providence came to be restrained by covetousness, so soon as individuals appropriated that to themselves which was intended for all, then did poverty creep into the world.—*Seneca.*

Tekamah, Neb.

This is a growing town, a county seat and there is considerable work here, but the place is overcaowded with men. Work is principally frame buildings, a few brick. There is prospect of starting a union in this place and I also intend to organize Blair, Sioux City and a few other cities in Iowa, not far from here. The best hands here get $2 50 and others from $2.09 up. The men need a union the worst way because the bosses do not pay the men only just when they like. Some of the men have from $50 to $100 wages due them and they have not the grit to ask it, as they are afraid of the "sack," so they have to get trust at the stores, while the bosses use the money elsewhere.

Columbus, Ohio.

Trade is picking up a little with us and all Union men are employed. Still there are a great many men out of employment, and wages low. The mammoth works of the Case Manufacturing Co., in which are employed about 25 members of No.61, was partly burned on the night of the 23d, and several of our members lost a great portion of their tools. This of course will cause a short suspension of business, but the Company, with that pluck, energy and promptitude for which they are noted, will not be many days in restoring the factory to running order The shops are the largest and best regulated and best paid in this city, and our genial and big hearted foreman, LEO D. BROWN, has contributed largely to the merited success of this good firm. Would to God that every city in the United States had dozens of foremen like our Brown, as no better friend to workingmen treads the soil of this country, nor one more interested in a proper way for the welfare of the firm of which he is the tried and trusted foreman To illustrate this fact, he announced to his large number of hands two weeks ago that he would give a ten per cent. raise in wages. Such a firm and such a foreman are worthy the confidence and respect of all wage workers and all Unions.

Eau Claire, Wis.

Several very successful agitation meetings have been held here in different parts of the city, with the result of waking up the carpenters into joining Union No. 75. We are growing very rapidly, and a deep interest is taken in our proceedings. Many of our members are Scandinavians, and they are a large element of our population. After we have this city properly under way we will organize a union in Chippeway, Wis. Wages are running low here, from $1.75 to $2.25 and some $2.50 per day, on the average about $2.00 per day, and there are plenty of carpenters here for the work to be done, and many will have to go hungry this winter. We are very anxious, however, to get our union in a condition that we can get decent wages next Spring.

Convict Labor in Minnesota and its Effects on Carpenters.

ST. PAUL, MINN.—Trade is getting dull already, which is due in a great measure to the convict contract system of Minnesota. Nearly all the inside finish is got out in the State Prison that is used in St. Paul and Minneapolis. The glorious laws of Minnesota gives the pleasure of doing the nice work to the beloved convict while the honest, law-abiding citizen has to do all the rough work, handle the joists, lay the floors, work in the hot summer sun and the storms of winter, half clad and half fed, while the convict protected from the sun, and in steam heated shops in winter, does the work which it would be a pleasure for an honest carpenter to do and which rightfully belongs to us. Such is the condition of the carpenters in Minnesota. The carpenters of St. Paul never could see this until they organized. It's curious what organization will do. Now we got the question into the Trades Assembly, and with their assistance we are going to break up the convict contract system. At least we will try very hard.

Obituary Resolutions.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL, October 24, 1884.—Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.—Local Union No. 22.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our devoted and highly esteemed brother, Thomas O'Rielly, and

Whereas the earnest devotion to our cause so often manifested by him, is generally acknowledged by the members of this Union, be it therefore

Resolved that in the death of Thomas O'Rielly our Society acknowledges and laments the loss of one who was ever ready and anxious to promote the best interests of the Brotherhood by all the means at his command, and of one who was in every way worthy of our confidence and respect.

Resolved that we hereby tender to the widow and family of our departed brother our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in this the hour of their deep distress.

Resolved that a just tribute to the memory of our lamented friend be paid by entering these resolutions upon the minutes of this Society.

Resolved that a copy of this sincere testimonial of our profound sorrow and deep sympathy be transmitted to the widow and famiy of our deceased brother and to the local press. On behalf of the Union,

T. C. ROWE, President.
JNO. J. TIERNEY, Rec. Sec.

—A nation's labor, well applied, should be amply sufficient to provide its whole population with good food and comfortable habitation; and not with those only, but with good education besides, and objects of luxury.—*Ruskin.*

Toledo, Ohio.

We are doing very well for all, although we are not getting as many new members as we did in the spring, still we initiate some at most every meeting. We are busy now reviewing our By-Laws and also with our ball which is to take place on Nov. 19th.

Hamilton, Canada.

Trade is very dull. All the shops running on short time, excepting the Cotton Mills are running nearly full time. If there is a job in the building line out now it is cut down so fine that there is not salt in it for porridge so that Hamilton is a place I would advise all carpenters and all other tradesmen in the building line to stay away from. We are over-run with old country emigrants, and they are starving for want of work. The new post office in this city is over-run with men, for they flock to it from far and near, only to be refused a job, and then curse themselves for coming to this city.

Denver, Col.

Union 55 is holding its own and all the members are at work most of the time. One firm it is said has reduced wages from $2.75 to $2.50. The city is full of men who are outside of the union yet, and if our men quit there are other men to step in and take their places. The weather is getting cooler here and the snow is beginning to fly and most of the work on hand will soon be finished. Then it will be hard to find a job in Denver. The Brick masons have commenced to organize here, their wages are from $4 to $4 50 per day for ten hours and they don't want them made any less. Plasterers have organized a union since we did. They have been getting $3.25 and $4 per day for ten hours. They struck on the 1st of October for eight hours and $3 50 per day, all their bosses but two or three have come to time and it is thought they will agree this week to eight hours and the $3.50 One boss plasterer advertised the other day for ten plasterers at $4 per day and ten hours work. The President of Plasterers Union put a notice in the same paper in the same column that the plasterers were out on a strike for eight hours and $3.50 and warning plasterers to stay away Yesterday I noticed the Bosses' advertisement did not appear. I suppose he was beaten at his own game. I think a reduction of hours is the best thing mechanics and laborers can demand. If only a majority would organize and form Trades Unions and demand for all less hours at the same time they could win. If carpenters, masons, plasterers and everybody else would stand together they would be successful. Let the motto be fewer hours so that idle men can have work. I Would like to say to all wage workers *organize—stand together* and demand eight hours from the 1st of Oct. until the 1st of April. Nine hours from the 1st of April to the 1st of Oct. in each year. I congratulate the union in Los Angelos, Cal., on their success. You can see from this letter that Denver wage workers are on the road to better organization. Bro. J. D. McDonald was elected Vice President at our last meeting instead of Bro. C. O. Hatch. J. D. BAILEY.

Germantown, Pa.

Branch No. 1 of Germantown, Pa., is in excellent condition. We have been taking in new members every meeting night some who always were opposed to union and would not give it a trial. We are glad to extend to them the hand of friendship and and greet them as brothers for we know they will now make the best Union men. We would have a fine organization if all the members of our branch would take an active interest in it and attend to its meetings more regular. If it had not been for our branch the carpenters of Germantown would be compelled to work for less wages. We expect to give a grand open meeting and entertainment this winter, and, if possible, get our General Secretary to give us a visit, it would be the means of increasing our membership very much. We think our General Officers ought to give all the branches a visit once a year, it would make all our Unions stronger. Work is pretty good here this fall. The wages are $2.50 and $2 75 per day, near all our union men get $2.75, had it not been for so many strangers in the town that would be the only wages. We will not take any carpenter in our branch that cannot command $2 50 per day. We only work nine hours on Saturday. Our members are glad we have such a good journal to defend our Brotherhood.

Striking Against a Mean Boss in Raleigh, N. C.

In the N. C. Car Company, in this city, there were fifteen men at work on cars. Some time ago one of our members asked Mr. Ashley, the superintendent, to give him 25 cents more per day, to make his wages $1.75. Mr. Ashley told him no, he would not, and if he was dissatisfied he could quit. Since then a laborer asked for 10 cents more a day to make his wages $1.00 per day. Mr. Ashley said: No! The man told him he was not getting enough to feed his family, not to speak of paying house rent. Ashley said he would be d——d if he would give him any more. "And by God," says Ashley, "If you are not satisfied you can leave." Of course the man quit. A third man asked for more money and was cursed and insulted the same way. On the following week fifteen men walked out on the ground that they were tired of being insulted by asking for more pay. The men pledged themselves not to strike another "lick" for the company any more for less than 25 cents more in the day. Some of the men have left this city to look elsewhere for work. Only one of them belongs to our Union. Ashley says that he never will hire anyone else that belongs to any union from this out if he knows it. Our Union here works together in harmony with the K. of L., and other labor societies. A union of colored carpenters is under way.

SOMETHING FOR THE BOSSES.

It has been recently said to men when inquiring for employment by some bosses that they do not want union men, as they desire to run their own business their own way. The union does not undertake to run any employers' business. It is only when a boss acts in such a manner that common humanity cries out that it should be stopped that the union interferes. What is meant by running their own business their own way? It means to make a pay day and the amount paid to suit themselves, never thinking about the man's affairs, whether his family is in need or not; it means to lay a man off at any moment, and expect him to wait the boss' pleasure when to come back. Then, the boss sometimes gets "hot" with parties to whom he must restrain his rage, and so he vents his spleen on his men, and all sorts of things that have no principle in them. That is running their business their own way, and they have been so accustomed to it that the very name of union brings to their mind a dread of being paid back in their own coin.

Now, the men do not want anything outside of justice and square dealing—a fair field and no favors—and only want the same treatment from the bosses that a merchant with his goods would expect, for the workman brings his labor to market, and has equal rights with the lumber man, hardware man, etc., to do the best he can with it. The ignorance and apathy of some are taken advantage of to fight the others with; hence the unions aim to instruct the ignorant and to help the weak.

Again it has been inferred by some bosses that only one-third of the men in the union are of any use. We are aware that they are not all first-class mechanics; they do not claim to be. But we claim that the man in the union is superior to the non-union man, because he has come to the conclusion that he is a man and has to stand for what belongs to him, and there are more intelligent and good workmen inside the union than out. The difference between the two is that the union man acts on the principle of manhood and will not lay down and be trodden on. Some non-union men of our acquaintance are so servile and such sycophants as to take anything in any shape that may be offered to them. There are a great number of honest, straightforward bosses who know that in union lies their strength, and the sooner all the men are in the union the better it will be for their business. One who has union men in his employ said he was doing better work than any other shop in the city. These men, then, will know how to figure on a job which, owing to dishonest, unprincipled bosses they have not the opportunity of doing. *Carpentry and Building* states that in other countries there is a uniform estimating book laid down as a status to take figures of contracts so that the bids are nearly equal to each other, and by that means no contractor gets left very much. But it says that in this country contracts are made to such extremes that the fortunate lowest bidder is the most unfortunate before he gets through. There are so many that take contracts who have not the judgment to give a safe figure, but take it far too low, and then try to make it up with inferior material and hurried work, and all the time fretting and crying to the men that they have taken the contract too low, and they must hurry their work and receive less wages for it, so as to help them through. No doubt, in their own mind, they want as large a margin as the next man, but they know that it cannot be gotten from their lumber or hardware, but they must squeeze the men who perform the labor to get through. The result can be seen on any street in the city, and the buildings tell their own tale to the passer by.

The following is from a boss carpenter, who has written on the subject of unions. He says he "has found that it has developed a better class of men, who have given themselves time to think, and who are endeavoring to keep their fellow workmen from the saloons, and other places and ways not desirable for men, and to devote their leisure to uplift their fellows from the low state to which they have fallen." He also says that in the ensuing spring he shall advocate a shortening of the hours of labor. He claims that the unions are worth more than dollars or cents. There is no giving the value of them for the bearing they have on the coming generation.

The men who have come to the front are generally our best workmen, and therefore can see from a higher standpoint than others who have enough to do to muddle through each day's work, glad only that they have put another day in, and that is all they know. The union of these workers intends to lift all that will be lifted, instruct all that will be instructed, and those who have not the sense or concern to know what it means, must be taught in some other way. The time has come in this country when men must join together for their own safety and interest.

Omaha, Neb. W. R. REEVES.

MALCONTENTS AND SECESSION.

Some of the newpapers try to make abig thing out of the seceding of one lodge of the boilers and helpers from the Amalgated Association. This matter of one or two lodges seceding from the association we consider of no importance. It will be but a question of a short time until they will be very glad to return to their old fold for protection. There are always to be found in labor organizations, as well as in other associations, a few malcontents, who are never satisfied with anything that is done, and try to make every other member dissatisfied by false and venomous statements.

These malcontents have always a personal motive for advocating secession, and as soon as the motives are discovered those who advocated secession are kicked to one side, and the lodge will only be too glad to return to their old association for protection. Those who advocate the seceding of a branch from the association should be carefully watched, and the sooner they are put down the better it will be for the lodge or union.—*Iron Moldsre Journal.*

UNITE.

Suppose we were on a boat and those at the wheel were a set of pirates steering her straight for their harbor, Robber's Roost, do you suppose we could change the course of the boat by quarreling as to who should be on the upper deck? It is very evident that our actions would have no possible effect on the course of the boat. Well, a country is like this boat—"the ship of State," as grandiloquent speakers call it—and so long as we let the pirates do the steering we must expect nothing more than to be landed at Robber's Roost. We cannot better our material condition by trying to keep men and women out of our trade any more than we can change the boat's course by an ignoble squabble. I tell you, until we cease fighting among ourselves and unite our energies toward fighting the devils that are robbing us, until we get at the wheel and steer this craft ourselves, our condition will continually grow worse instead of better!—*Joe Labadie.*

Columbus, Ohio.

Business is still dull here, wages are low. The market is overstocked, cost of living and house rent exorbitantly high. We are endeavoring to get the number of carpenters living in this city, number of employed and unemployed, the good and bad contractors, so that we can in the near future give some statistics about this capital of ours. We have several carpenters amonst us who are blindly and madly keeping aloof from our union. Those men it appears would prefer giving dollars for tribute rather than to give a nickel for defense. Those men it is to be hoped will soon see the error of their ways and come into the fold of union, the place where every workingman should be. We have revived our *Union Advocate*, with the indefatigable D. P. Boyer as editor. David wields a caustic pen and woe to the firms, concerns or individual who violate union principles, for they will receive a castigation which they won't readily forget, it has filled a long felt want and may it live long and prosper. THE CARPENTER is always anxiously looked for by our members who eagerly devour its contents and always welcome it as a good friend.

Interessante Briefe.

Wie die Ausbeutung wirkt.

Vor kurzer Zeit kamen durch Zufall mehrere Briefe in meine Hände, geschrieben von zwei „Carpenter Boße" in zwei Nachbarstädten, welche ich hier in Uebersetzung wieder gebe, da dieselben gerade für unsere St. Louiser Verhältnisse passen, und ich werde nur die Namen der Orte verändern.

No. 1.

Scab Town, 9. Mai 1882.

Mr. C. Johnson, Union City.

Wie ich zu meinem Mißvergnügen vernehme zahlen Sie und Ihre Collegen in Union City Ihren Arbeitern ganz enorme Löhne; warum thuen Sie das? damit schaden Sie nicht allein sich, die Sie doch bei solchen Löhnen nur wenig oder gar nichts machen können, sondern auch uns, die wir hier in Eurer Nähe sind; da dadurch auch unsere Arbeiter rebellisch werden, und auch alles haben wollen was an einem „Job" gemacht wird. Es ist bloß unserer Vorsicht zuzuschreiben wenn wir noch etwas besser dran sind wie Ihr. Hoffentlich werden Sie in Zukunft nicht mehr solche extravagante Löhne zahlen; wiedrigenfalls werden wir uns gezwungen sehen, Kontrakte in Ihrem Orte anzunehmen, und Sie dadurch zwingen.

Ergebenst,
A. Clarke, Scab Town.

No. 2.

Union City, 2. Juni 1882.

Mr. A. Clarke, Scab Town,

Werther Herr: Ihr Schreiben vom 9. Mai erhalten. Wir Meister haben eine Beredung in der Sache gehabt, und möchten Ihrem Wunsche sehr gerne nachkommen; aber so wie wir es versuchen so laden wir uns einen Strike auf den Hals. Es existirt hier eine Union, sie ist zwar nicht stark, aber wenn es zum Strike kommt, dann gehen diejenigen die nicht dazu gehören auch mit; und ein Strike dürfen wir gegenwärtig, da viel zu thun ist, nicht riskiren, deßhalb können wir augenblicklich Ihrem Wunsch, der auch der unsrige ist, nicht nachkommen. Ganz ergebenst Ihr,

C. Johnson.

No. 3.

Scab Town, 15. Juni 1882,

Mr. C. Johnson,

Werther Herr: Wie ich aus Ihrem Schreiben vom 2. Juni ersehe, stoßen Sie mit der Sache auf Schwierigkeiten, aber ich hätte wirklich nicht geglaubt, daß Sie so wenig Geschäftsleute wären und Ihr Interesse nicht besser verständet! Sie haben Furcht vor der Union, und erlauben, daß eine solche besteht? Zerstören Sie sie doch! Es ist doch nichts einfacher wie das. Seien Sie für eine Zeitlang recht freundlich und liberal gegen Ihre Arbeiter, dann lassen Sie ab und zu ein paar Worte fallen in der Sie sich über die Union lustig machen, um sie lächerlich zu machen; nebenbei stellen Sie keinen an, von dem Sie wissen, daß er zur Union gehört, so lange Sie es helfen können. Sagen Sie das aber nicht, denn das würde verrathen, daß Sie die Union fürchteten; aber drängen Sie die Union-Leute aus Arbeit wo Sie können, damit keine mehr beitreten, da sie sehen, daß es ihnen schadet. Dann schicken Sie einen Mann, auf den Sie sich verlassen können, in die Union und lassen ihn beitreten, damit Sie genau über die Vorgänge in der Union unterrichtet sind. Die paar Leute, welche zur Union gehören, werden es bald satt bekommen, sich für die übrigen aufzuopfern und werden die Union aufgeben. Dies Recept hat hier sehr gut gewirkt, und seit einem Jahre existirt hier keine Union mehr. Wir haben somit freie Hand.

Ergebenst Ihr,
A. Clarke.

Nachschrift. Wenn die Union zu einem Nationalen oder Internationalen Verband gehört, so sehen Sie zu daß sich unabhängige Unions bilden und dadurch Zersplitterung entsteht, das trägt ungemein viel zur gänzlichen Auflösung bei.

Der Obige.

No. 4.

Union City, 1. Juli 1882.

Mr. A. Clarke,

Werther Herr: Ihr Schreiben vom 15. Juli erhalten: Ihr Recept wird schon angewandt; Es scheint zu wirken. Später mehr.

Ergebenst,
C. Johnson.

No. 5.

Union City, 20. Oct. 1882.

Mr. A. Clarke.

Theurer Herr: Ihr Recept wirkt wunderschön, und von den 250 Mann, welche zur Union gehörten, sind schon 163 ausgetreten. Wir sind gut informirt. Wir haben die Leute durch unsern Vertrauten in persönliche Streitigkeiten verwickelt, dadurch sind viele ausgetreten, und haben eine unabhängige Union gegründet; diese beiden Unions bekämpfen sich jetzt gegenseitig. Wir haben den Lohn schon durchschnittlich 25 Cents herunter und werden ihn nächsten Monat weiter herunter kriegen. Durch dies alles hoffen wir nächsten Winter die Union zu sprengen, dann werden wir nächstes Frühjahr nicht mehr zahlen wie Sie. Wenn wir jetzt zu rasch vorgehen, so könnten die Arbeiter wieder einig werden, und nächstes mal besser aufpassen; darum gehen wir langsam aber stetig.

Mit aufrichtigem Dank für Ihren guten Rath, verbleibe ich Ihr ganz ergebener.

C. Johnson.

Das sind die Briefe. Carpenter von St. Louis! Diese Briefe passen ganz genau auf uns hier, die wenigen Mitglieder der hiesigen Union haben es satt, für die Gleichgültigen die Kastanien aus dem Feuer zu holen, und werden, wenn sich nicht mehr daran betheiligen wollen, die Sache aufgeben. Die Folgen davon werden so sein wie in den Briefen angedeutet. Wollt ihr das? dann bleibt nur ruhig zu Hause; wo nicht so schließt Euch der hiesigen Carpenter Union an.

Ein Bauschreiner.

St. Louis, Mo., 30. Oct. 1884.

Die Zimmerleute in Kiel haben durch einen Strike die zehnstündige Arbeitszeit erkämpft.

— Der große Strike der Steinhauer in New York ist durch eine Vergleichung beendet. Die Steinhauer hatten nach dem vor Monaten ausgebrochenen und in kurzer Zeit siegreich beendeten Ausstand der Maurer mit diesen einen Vertrag geschlossen, wonach dieselben an Bauten keine Steine verarbeiten sollten, welche von Nichtunion-Geschäften geliefert würden. Mehrere große Bauten wurden dadurch lahm gelegt und die Steinhauer-Bosse sperrten ihre Arbeiter aus, um die Verbindung zu sprengen. Die Maurer haben im Verlaufe des Ausstandes ihr Wort nicht gehalten und ist bei dem Vergleich dieser Punkt als erledigt fallen gelassen worden. Die Union wird anerkannt, alle Arbeiter, Vorleute und Lehrlinge treten wieder in Arbeit und die Union nimmt die zu Scabs gewordenen Mitglieder nach Rückzahlung der erhaltenen Unterstützungsgelder wieder in die Union auf. Die Steinhauer-Union ist eine der besten Unions; sie hat den 8-stündigen Arbeitstag von früher erhalten und verfügt über große Fonds. Die Unterstützungen aus dem ganzen Lande flossen sehr reichlich. Die Steinhauer haben seit vielen Jahren noch jeden Strike gewonnen.

— Die Deutsch-amerikanische Typographia bezahlt wöchentlich $5 Krankengeld, $200 Sterbegeld und $25 beim Tode der Frau, $7 per Woche Strike-Unterstützung und $5 in Fällen von Arbeitslosigkeit. Die Mitgliedschaftsbeiträge sind **35 Cents per Woche**, und eine Extrasteuer von 25 Cents beim Tode eines Mitgliedes. Die Lokal-Unions bezahlen eine Kopfsteuer von 25 Cents per Monat an die Central Kasse und es besteht ein System zur Ausgleichung der Kassen.

— Die Washingtoner Carpenters Union hat eine Boycott-Ordre gegen die Washington und Georgetown Eisenbahn-Compagnie erlassen, weil letztere sich weigerte Unionleute für ihre neu zu errichtenden Ställe zu engagiren. Die Federation of Trades and Labor Unions hat das Vorgehen gebilligt und der Kampf wird mit aller Energie der dortigen Arbeiterbevölkerung geführt werden.

— Carpenters' Union No. 1, Washington, D. C., hielt letzten Mittwoch eine öffentliche Versammlung, um die Organisation zu erweitern. Die Versammlung war stark besucht und interessante Reden wurden gehalten. Die Union ist in schnellem Wachsthum begriffen; 150 neue Mitglieder wurden während des letzten Monats aufgenommen und mehr haben sich zur Aufnahme gemeldet. Man hofft binnen Kurzem alle in Washington ansässigen Carpenter auf der Mitgliederliste zu haben.

LEGALIZE THE UNIONS.

Owing to the fact of the prevalency of incorporated capital, labor unions have become more than ever necessary for the protection of laboring people and for the building up and maintaining dignity of the trades. This being indisputable, trades unions should be legalized and brought to the recognition of the courts.—*Salem Vidette.*

AN EMPLOYER WI… REDUCED HO… IN… …KERS. …ion

BEST SECURITY AND PROTECTION, Judge Thomas M. Cooley of the Su…

PEELINGS OF A SCAB. We would like to know the thought…

Der Carpenter.

Cleveland, November 1884.

Reduktion der Arbeitszeit bringt höhere Löhne.

Eines der Hauptargumente der Fabrikanten von Massachusetts gegen die Zehnstunden-Bill war die Behauptung, daß, wenn die Arbeitszeit reduzirt würde, die Arbeiter darunter zu leiden haben würden, weil die Fabrikanten dann die Löhne reduziren müßten. Dies ist aber nicht der Fall gewesen, denn obwohl die Löhne in den Baumwollfabriken von Massachusetts niedrig genug sind, sind sie doch noch höher als in anderen Neu-England Staaten, wo 11 und 12 Stunden gearbeitet wird. Man überblicke das ganze Feld der Industrie und allenthalben wird man sehen, daß, je weniger Arbeitsstunden, desto höher die Löhne. Und das erklärt sich leicht und einfach: Ein Fünftel weniger Zeit für einen Werktag bringt ein Fünftel mehr Leute an die Arbeit, wodurch der Druck auf den Arbeitsmarkt aufgehoben und außerdem dem Arbeiter mehr Zeit gegeben wird, sich aufzuklären und eine bessere Erkenntniß für seine Lage zu erlangen.

Eine Achtstunden-Bewegung ist wichtiger, als eine Bewegung zur Erlangung höherer Löhne. Wenn erst einmal der Werktag auf 8 Stunden herabgesetzt ist, werden die Löhne von selbst höher; denn, statt daß Arbeitslose mit einander konkuriren, um Arbeit zu bekommen, werden die Bosse mit einander wetteifern, um sich Arbeiter zu verschaffen.

Das Gesetz über „Angebot und Nachfrage" ist lange benutzt worden, um die Löhne niedrig zu halten. Man sagte den Arbeitern, daß die Löhne hoch seien, wenn wenig Arbeiter sich anbieten und daß die Löhne herabgingen, wenn das Arbeitsangebot stark sei. Es ist selbstverständlich, daß mehr Leute erforderlich sind, um ein gegebenes Arbeitsquantum fertig zu stellen, wenn nur 8 Stunden gearbeitet werden, als es erfordern würde, wenn der Werktag 10 Stunden dauert. Wenn wir die Stunden reduziren, muß die Zahl der Arbeiter vermehrt werden und wenn wir so die Arbeitslosen vom Markte nehmen, ist es die natürliche Folge, nach der Theorie von Angebot und Nachfrage, daß die Löhne in die Höhe gehen, ohne daß deßhalb gestreikt zu werden braucht.

— Ein Wechselblatt sagt:

„Die wiederholten Versuche, billige auswärtige Arbeiter unter Kontrakt zu importiren, um mit diesen die Stellen strikender amerikanischer Arbeiter zu besetzen, bilden eine der größten Gefahren für unsere gesammte Nation und alle Staatsmänner sollten ihre Aufmerksamkeit darauf lenken. Die Vorgänge im Hocking Gebirge waren nur Vorboten des Sturmes, nur schwache Anzeichen eines drohenden vulkanischen Ausbruchs. Werden unsere Staatsmänner und Kapitalisten diese Warnungszeichen zu beherzigen wissen?"

Nein, nein! Gewiß nicht! Unsere „Staatsmänner" alle sind Kapitalisten, oder sehen doch Alles durch die kapitalistische Brille; die Kapitalisten aber verhindert ihr Interessen-Standpunkt den Forderungen der Zeit Rechnung zu tragen. Von den Arbeitern allein kann und wird dieser „drohende vulkanische Ausbruch" in solche Bahnen geleitet werden, daß er wirkt wie ein reinigendes, wohlthuendes Gewitter.

— Ueber die Lohnbewegung der Berliner Tischler in den Jahren 1883—1884 veröffentlichte die leitende Commission einen ausführlichen Bericht, der einen bemerkenswerthen Beitrag zur Geschichte der Berliner Arbeiterbewegung bildet. Das Facit der Bewegung war, daß die Tischler in der Hauptsache ihre Forderungen: 9½stündige Arbeitszeit, Wegfall der Sonntagsarbeit, günstigere Lohnzahlungsbedingungen und eine Lohnaufbesserung durchsetzten, und dieser Erfolg hat seitdem das Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl wesentlich gekräftigt. An dem fünfwöchentlichen Strike waren 1965 Mann betheiligt, 1560 erhielten die Forderungen sofort bewilligt. An Unterstützungsgeldern gingen 27,300,29 Mk. ein, wovon 24,946,06 Mk. verausgabt wurden, so daß ein Bestand von 2,354,23 Mk. verblieb. An Unterstützungen für Berliner Strikende wurden 18,894,75 Mk., für Strikende und Ausgesperrte in anderen Städten 2610 Mk. verausgabt. Am 4. Juli waren in Berlin noch 35 Mann zu unterstützen. Da man der Aufrechterhaltung des Durchgesetzten halber Schwierigkeiten befürchtet, werden die Wochensteuern fortgesetzt.

— In England hat der Arbeiter das erste Anrecht auf die Effekten seines Arbeitgebers für rückständigen Lohn und kann denselben ohne eine Stunde Verzögerung collektiren.

Unser Eldorado.

Das statistische Bureau für Massachusetts liefert uns in seinem Bericht pro 1883 eine Zusammenstellung der dort gezahlten Löhne, nebst den Löhnen der meisten Branchen Englands.

Da dse größeren Tagesblätter mehr oder weniger die Einzelnheiten dieser Zusammenstellung brachteu, so wollen wir diese übergehen und einige Bemerkungen über das Gesammt-Resultat machen.

Also das Summa Summarium ist: In Massachusetts verausgabt eine Familie 93.89 Prozent ihres Einkommens, in England 98.24 Prozent. In Massachusetts erübrigt also ein Arbeiter 4.35 Prozent mehr, als in England.

Der Bericht bezeichnet ferner die bessere Lebensweise der Arbeiter von Massachusetts gegenüber denen Englands mit 42 Prozent.

Soweit oberflächlich gelesen, sieht dieser Bericht gar nicht übel aus; deßhalb drucken ihn kapitalistische Blätter mit wahrem Behagen ab, um damit den Arbeitern zu zeigen, welch ein Paradies immer noch Amerika ist.

Gegenüber solchen Berichten und der Unwissenheit unserer kapitalistischen Lohnschreiber ist es deßhalb nicht zu verwundern, wenn kapitalistische Blätter sich zu der blödsinnigen Behauptung versteigen, das Gewerkschaftswesen habe keine Berechtigung in diesem Lande.

Doch zu unserem Bericht; er datirt aus dem Jahre 1883—ein Jahr, das unbedingt noch zur Prosperitäts-Periode gerechnet werden muß, hier sowohl als in England—eine Zeit, in der die höchsten Lohnsätze bezahlt wurden. Nach diesem Bericht konnte also 1883 in Massachusetts Derjenige, welcher Arbeit hatte, 6 Prozent seines Einkommens bei Seite legen, als Reservekapital für die Zeiten der Geschäftskrise.

Die letzten „fetten" Jahre, d. h, in der die Produktion florirte, begannen bekanntlich nach 7jähriger Geschäftskrise im Jahre 1880 und dauerten bis zum Schlusse 1883, und dieses Jahr [1884] müssen wir bestimmt wieder als den Anfang einer neuen Geschäftskrise bezeichnen, wo der Lohn nicht um 5 Prozent, sondern um 20 und 25 Prozent gefallen ist.

Wir sehen also, die 6 Prozent Reservekapital mitsammt der besseren Lebensweise sind schon verschwunden vom Budget und statt dessen heißt es: „Einschränken", wenn man das Reservekapital, sein Erspartes aus den guten Zeiten, nicht schon verausgaben will. Ziehen wir ferner in Betracht, daß selbst in Zeiten guten Geschäftsganges die industrielle Reserve-Armee keine kleine ist, daß Tausende und Tausende herumlaufen, als unfreiwillige Pflastertreter Arbeit suchend, so wird man zugeben, daß nur bei einer verhältnißmäßig kleineren Zahl von Glückspilzen, die in guten Zeiten beständige Arbeit hatten, von einem Ersparen, von einem Reserve-Kapital für die schlechten Zeiten, die Rede sein kann.

Jeder Arbeiter weiß ferner, daß in Zeiten der Geschäftskrise die größte Mehrzahl der Arbeiter froh sind, wenn sie nur das nackte Leben fristen können, das hat die Periode von 1873 bis 1880 in diesem Lande zur Genüge bewiesen.—[Der Hammer.]

Düsseldorf. In Düsseldorf haben unsere Kameraden einen Erfolg errungen. In der Generalversammlung vom 30. Juni d. J. wurde beschlossen, die Zimmermeister um Erhöhung des Arbeitslohnes und die Herabsetzung der Arbeitszeit zu ersuchen. Demzufolge wurde den Meistern folgender Antrag zugestellt:

Die hier ortsübliche Arbeitszeit beträgt jetzt 10½ Stunde und zwar von Morgens ½7 Uhr bis Abends 7 Uhr, davon gehen 2 Stunden Essenszeit ab. In Zukunft soll die wirkliche Arbeitszeit 10 Stunden dauern, mit derselben Anfangs- und Feierabendzeit, aber die Mittagsstunde soll statt einer Stunde 1½ Stunden betragen. Ferner wünschen wir pro Stunde der wirklichen Arbeitszeit Fünfunddreißig Pfennig Lohn und soll dieser Satz auf 5 Jahre festgesetzt werden. Wir ersuchen die Herren Meister, welche mit unserer wohl keineswegs übertriebenen Forderung einverstanden sind, dieses zu unterzeichnen."

Dieser Antrag wurde von der Mehrzahl der Meister angenommen und unterschrieben.

— Der schwarze Plantagenarbeiter in Louisiana kann den Bergleuten des Lehigh Thales jetzt die Hand reichen, denn er bekommt auch 65 Cents per Tag.

— Die Sterblichkeitsziffer der Carpenter ist überall gesunken, wo die betreffenden Arbeiter der Union beitraten, weil infolge dessen die Lebenshaltung der Betreffenden allmälin verbessert wurde durch höhere Löhne.

Gewerkschaftliches.

Unter dieser Ueberschrift bringt der Chicagoer „Vorbote" einen Artikel, welcher in Anbetracht der Chicagoer Sachlage für unsere Leser von Interesse sein wird.

„In verschiedenen Gewerkschaften dieses Landes, und hauptsächlich in den deutschen Zweigen derselben, wird gegenwärtig von angeblich sehr radicaler Seite der Versuch gemacht, die naturgemäß centralistisch organisirten Berufsgenossenschaften zu zersplittern. Das heißt mit anderen Worten man versucht die mühsam aufgebauten nationalen Organisationen als solche aufzulösen und in machtlose, kleine locale Cliquen, Gruppen und Cirkel zu verwandeln. Die Vereinsspielerei ohne bindende Verpflichtung für die einzelne Gruppe, ohne Statut, ohne Centralkasse, ohne Central- resp. Fach-Organ, ohne Solidarität, —denn „Solidarität ist Massen-Tyrannei"— soll an die Stelle des ernsten solidarischen Classenkampfes mit seinen Pflichten, Disciplinen und Rechten treten. Das ist eine sehr reactionäre und gefährliche Spielerei, welche hoffentlich von den denkenden Mitgliedern der durch derartige Manöver gefährdeten Gewerkschaften energisch zurückgewiesen werden wird.

Die centralisirten Gewerkschaften zu losen Gruppen, Localvereinchen, Circeln und Cliquen ohne Pflichten, ohne Statuten, ohne Centralkassen, ohne Fachorgane, ohne Central-Behörde umformen wollen, heißt einfach jede Organisation auflösen, heißt mit den intimsten Interessen der Lohnarbeiter aus Unwissenheit oder Frivolität ein freches Spiel treiben, heißt den Satz: „Proletarier aller Länder, vereinigt Euch!" umformen in: „Proletarier aller Länder, vereinzelt Euch!" das heißt, die Solidarität, die einzige Machtquelle der Arbeiter, verstopfen und an ihrer Stelle den Giftquell des krankhaften Individualismus setzen, das heißt, die Arbeiter mit gebundenen Händen ihren Ausbeutern überliefern. Hoffentlich aber werden die organisirten Arbeiter zusammenhalten und die geplanten gewerkschaftlichen Decentralisations-Intriguen energisch und erfolgreich zurückweisen, denn sie sind gewarnt!"

Was die Lage unseres Gewerbes betrifft, finde ich mich veranlaßt einige Notizen im „Carpenter" zu veröffentlichen, was unsern Streik betrifft, den wir im Monat Mai hatten, so will ich auf die Folgen hinweisen. Was die Lohnforderung betroffen hat, kostete es den Union Leuten keine große Mühe $3 für 10 Stunden Arbeitszeit, den Tag zu erhalten. Infolge dessen publizirten einige Tage hernach die kapitalistischen Zeitungen die beneidenswerthe Lage der Carpenter, und daß zu Papier geschriebene flotte Baugeschäft Chicago's im ganzen Lande, so daß im Verlauf von 6—8 Wochen eine solche Ueberfüllung sich vorfand, daß diese bitter Betrogenen, welche Chicago zu ihrem Bestimmungsort erkoren hatten, zu guterletzt gar nicht mehr zuerst nach Lohn fragten, und damit zufrieden waren, was ihnen die Bosse gaben. Ich muß besonders hervorheben, daß sich unter diesen, welche auf diesen kapitalistischen Leim gingen, keine befanden, welche unserer Brüderschaft angehörten. Leser können sich selbst ein Bild davon machen, was einer Organisation nöthig thut, ich will nicht weiter darauf eingehen. Bis Ende August war die Arbeitslosigkeit so groß, daß es den Union-Leuten nicht mehr möglich war, den Lohn aufrecht zu erhalten, und bis Anfang September war der Durchschnitts-Lohn auf $2.50 herab gesunken. Das Einzige was wir durch diesen Streik bezweckt haben, ist, daß alle die Wankelmüthigen, welche unserer Brüderschaft angehörten, derselben verloren gingen. Es ist bewiesen, daß die Hebung unseres Gewerbes nur einzig und allein in der National Organisation liegt; keiner sollte sich durch solche Vorkommnisse abschrecken lassen. Um Diejenigen, welche Wochen lang täglich Arbeit suchen, von den Straßen zu verhelfen, sollten wir im ganzen Lande nach allen Kräften für Verkürzung der Arbeitszeit eintreten. Was die Lohnfrage anbetrifft, so bald die Nachfrage größer wird wie das Angebot, hebt sich der Lohn von selbst.

J. Z. Chicago, Ill.

Ohne Fachorgan sind die Arbeiter der verschiedenen Berufszweige überhaupt nicht mit dem, was innerhalb ihres Thätigkeitsgebiets im Lande vorgeht, auf dem Laufenden zu erhalten. Die Existenz eines Fachorgans hat aber nothwendig eine Centralisation der Gewerkschaft zur Voraussetzung, die Centralisation findet in dem Vorhandensein der Fachorgane grade ihren prägnantesten Ausdruck.

Verschiedenes.

— Die Invalidenkasse der Schriftsetzer in Deutschland hat einen Fond von $70,000 aufzuweisen.

— Carpenters in Newark, N. J., sind im Begriffe ihre Organisation wieder aufzubauen.

— Die Hausanstreicher und Zimmerleute in Oshkosh, Wis., sind im Begriffe Unionen zu gründen und haben sich dieserhalb wegen Information an auswärtige Unionen gewandt.

— In der Versammlung des Verbandes deutscher Zimmerleute (Lokalverband Berlin) sprach Herr Nix über Treppenbau. Zum Verbandsbericht theilt Herr G. Dietrich mit, daß der Verband zur Zeit aus 40 Städten und 3,700 Mitgliedern besteht. Am 19. Oktober findet in Mannheim ein Handwerkertag der Zimmerer Süddeutschlands statt.

Humboldt, Ill., 5. Sept. 1884.

Die Lage der Carpenter in Chicago und Umgegend ist traurig. Ich bin jetzt bereits 4 Wochen außer Arbeit und habe ganz Chicago und Umgebend abgelaufen, aber nirgends ist Arbeit zu finden. Und doch trifft man noch immer solche, die zugereist kommen und erzählen, daß sie in den Zeitungen gelesen, die Carpenters bekämen in Chicago 3 und 5½ Dollars. Es sollte unbedingt gewarnt werden, damit nicht noch mehr Leute nach Chicago kommen und auf der Straße herumlaufen.

August Krause.

— Die Grobschmiede von Pest in Ungarn haben die Arbeit niedergelegt. Sie müssen täglich 14 Stunden und Sonntags die halbe Zeit arbeiten, wofür sie wöchentlich $2.50 bekommen. Ihre Arbeitgeber lachen über die „übertriebenen" Forderungen der Striker.

— Strikes in den Baugewerken sind in der letzten Zeit etwas ganz gewöhnliches geworden und es scheint, als ob Arbeit und Kapital im Begriff wären, in einen Kampf einzutreten, gegen welche alle Kämpfe zwischen diesen Elementen in der Vergangenheit nur unbedeutende Scharmützel sind. Der Arbeiter von heute steht auf einem höheren Standpunkte, als der Arbeiter vor 50 Jahren. Während er unter vielen Ungerechtigkeiten, Mißbräuchen und Ungerechtigkeiten lange und geduldig leidet, gibt es doch eine Grenze für seine Nachsicht. und wir denken, daß es heutzutage nicht weise gehandelt ist von Seiten des Kapitals, das agressive Element in ihm zu erregen. Thatsache ist, daß der Arbeiter von 1884 eine Macht der Verbindung und des gemeinsamen Handelns besitzt, wie nie zuvor und diese Eigenschaften, wenn gegen eine bestimmte Klasse oder Partei gerichtet, würden sich in mehr als einer Hinsicht als unwiderstehlich erweisen. Aber wir wollen hoffen, daß das Kapital die Sache nicht zu weit treiben und aufhören wird, den Arbeiter zu unterdrücken, ehe es zu spät wird zum Umkehren.

— So ein Theil der arbeitenden Klasse sich in Vereinen zusammenthut, dann handeln sie gewißlich in der Ueberzeugung, daß Einigkeit stark macht, und jeder Mensch, der nicht ein Strohkopf ist, muß ihnen Recht geben. Wenn aber ein anderer Theil Arbeiter sich von diesen Vereinen fernhält, sogar gegen dieselben kämpft, in der Weise nämlich, daß sie sich den Prinzipalen anbieten für irgend eine Vergütung, die etwa so weit reicht, daß man von der Hand in den Mund damit leben kann, zu arbeiten, so sind dies entschieden unsere schlimmsten Feinde und ihre eigenen Verräther, weil sie durch einen solchen Akt sich dem Voß auf Gnade und Ungnade ergeben. Wenn aber gar Solche, die den Vortheil, Mitglied einer Arbeiter-Organisation zu sein, kennen gelernt haben, dieses Lager verlassen und „Scabs" werden, so können wir solche nur als Verräther an der Arbeitersache ansehen und verachten. Daß es auch an Solchen nicht fehlt, ist leider eine traurige Thatsache. Es scheint, nur allmälig will sich die Ueberzeugung bei den Arbeitern Bahn brechen, daß vereint dem Feind zu Leibe gegangen werden muß und daß nur das ein Sieg ist, der gute Folgen hat, und dauernd ist, was durch vereinte Macht errungen worden. Der Einzelne kann sich nicht mit Erfolg gegen die Diktate der Herren Arbeitgeber auflehnen, aber die Gesammtheit kann es. Ebenso muß sich der Einzelne einen Bruch eines Vertrages von Seiten des Prinzipals gefallen lassen, die Gesammtheit kann sich dagegen verwahren. Kein Arbeiter kann etwas Besseres thun, als sofort sich der Vereinigung seiher Berufsgenossen anschließen.

— Von Fall River wird gemeldet, daß die dortigen Spinner trotz Niederlage und Verfolgung ihre Union wiedrr kampffähig machen und von ihren ungenügenden Löhnen einen Dollar monatlich zu dem Unionfond beisteuern. Ihr Beispiel sollte in manchem besser bezahlten Geschäft nachgeahmt werden.

Death Assessments.

No. 27, NATHANIEL ADAMS, Union No. 22, San Francisco, Cal, aged 29 years, died of consumption, July 22, 1884, at his father's residence Carleton, New Brunswick, and was buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery, St Johns, N. B. Papers did not arrive at this office until Oct. 6th, owing to delay in sending them from New Brunswick to San Francisco and from thence here.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Charleston, S. C.

Trade very dull, prospects poor, members in arrears had better pay up or they will lose their right to benefits in case of any trouble.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Union No 9 has reentered the Brotherhood and means to push ahead the good cause. Business is anything but good, wages $2,25 per day.

Toronto, Canada.

Trade not brisk, wages as usual, very few union men out of work Gen'l Vice President, Alex Edgar is endeavoring to organize Peterboro. Our union favors the admission of wood working machine hands into the Brotherhood.

Austin, Texas.

Work dull, wages $2 to $2.75, over 75 idle carpenters in town and the number increasing and but very few buildings going on Until this city is protected by a good carpenters union we may expect scabby wages. The law of the Brotherhood against piecework is a good thing to protect the trade.

Portland, Oregon.

Our union has taken steps to be incorporated. Trade is getting worse there are twenty men for one place so many have come in this summer and the building work is not one-third what it was last year Times will be very hard this winter, wages are $2.50 and $3 per day while living is just as high as ever.

Rochester, N. Y.

At our last meeting we initiated our first two new members; this week two more will be added and next week four. There seems to be a determination now to build up the local Union. Trade here is getting worse every day, with the employers offering only $2.00 per day. Not much prospect for work this winter. We hope soon to have a German Union in this city.

Nashville, Tenn.

Our union has brighter prospects than it ever had before and far from being discouraged, our members are more hopeful We will soon undertake an energetic agitation to enroll every good carpenter in Nashville. A Trades Assembly has been formed here composed of two delegates from each union Its object is to arbitrate difficulties between employers and employes and as a *dernier resort* to support strikes when undertaken. Carpenters Union No 51 is represented.

Eau Claire, Wis.

The Carpenters of Eau Claire have organized a union to be governed by the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America The following officers were duly elected: G C Church, President; Andrew Warnus, Vice Pres.; Robert Tilton, Rec. Sec.; C H. Eaton, Cor. Sec.; T H. Furnia, Treas.; C. W Clark, Conductor; Peter Larsen, Warden; John Nogard, W G. Hainer, H. F. Filbert, Trustees. We have eighteen members to start with. The union is known as Union No. 75, of Eau Claire, and we propose to have 150 members in a few months.

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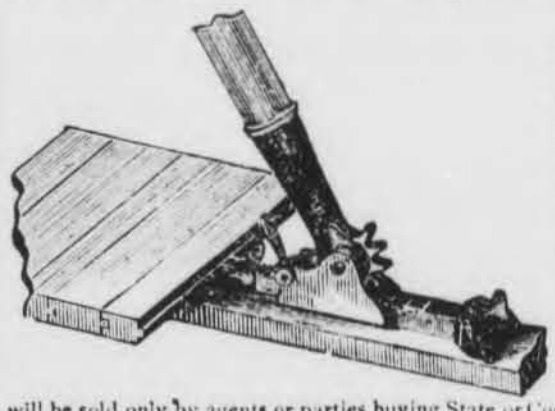

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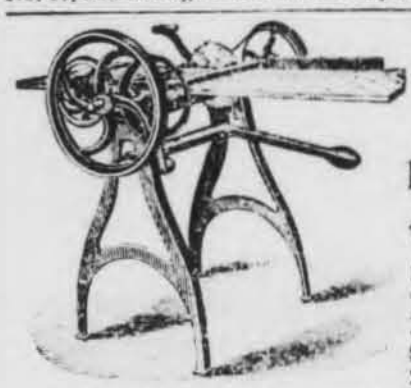

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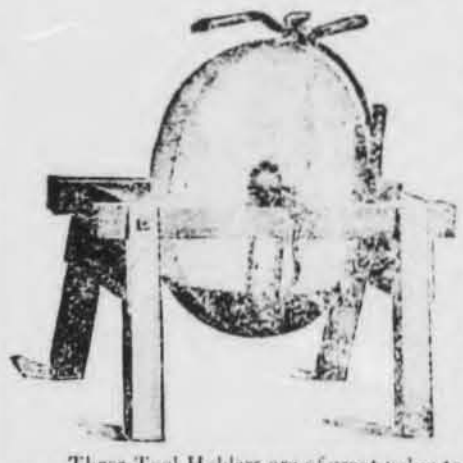

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THE CARPENTER

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

VOLUME IV. CLEVELAND, DECEMBER, 1884. NUMBER 12.

SAWDUST.

We are under obligations to Bro. D. C. BLINN, of the *Labor Vindicator*, Bay City, Mich., for notices in his able journal, complimentary to our Brotherhood.

The death assessments levied upon each union should be paid at the next meeting after recept of notice. To delay in such matters is indeed wrong and deserves the severest censure.

Stay away from Chicago, as more than half the trades there are starving for a job, and the prospects are that the times will be worse in that city. It is deluged with the floating labor of the whole North West.

St. Louis Union No. 5 now meets in Central Turner Hall. More than half the carpenters in the city are idle, and before a Spring a thorough organization of the trade in that city will be undertaken by the Ex-board.

From a report made to the Columbus, O., Board of Trade, it is ascertained that the strike in the Hocking Valley since June 27 has been a total loss of $4,011,000 to the business interests. The cost for military and detective service and the loss of wages are not included.

The 33d annual report of the Amalgamated Engineers shows that it has 424 branches and 50,000 members, and it extends its jurisdiction all over the globe. Last year's income was $673,-255, and the expenses $623,620 for various benefits. This society has spent nearly eleven millions of dollars for benefits since its formation.

The central trades and labor union of Boston is on the decline owing to some of its delegates taking a greater interest in the late political campaign than in the prosperity of their unions. But Carpenters Union No. 33 still maintains a full delegation in that body and is doing all in its power to restore the Central Union to its former prestige.

An industrial conference will be held in London, January next, to consider the labor question from a scientific standpoint and in all its phases. An Edinburg gentleman has donated $5,000 for the purpose and all the leading social scientists and representative trades unionists have been invited. No doubt the conference will be a great event in the labor movement.

Eau Claire, Wis.

Our union is growing very nicely and new members are coming in at every meeting. Our ball on Nov. 26 was fairly attended and was quite successful, considering we are a new union. Some of our members consider that when they got initiated their entire duty was done and they need no longer attend the meetings or pay any dues. These men better attend or we will strike them off the books. We expelled W. S. Vanaman for misappropriating the charter fee which he was instructed to send to the G. S.

The bosses feel very uneasy about our union as the wages are as low as those of a common laborer who furnishes no tools. The bricklayers and masons have just organized and they take hold with energy, and we are going to work together to help each other as unions. We propose to get all the trades well organized, and then have our own Trades Union Hall where men can go when out of work and read labor papers and trades journals to post themselves on this great movement. We are boycotting the New York *Tribune* vigorously, as it was read by a good many workmen in this town.

BROTHERHOOD NOTES.

Work is not extra good in Trenton, nevertheless all union men are employed.

Union No. 78, Troy, N. Y., and No. 79, Richmond, Ind., have been granted charters.

Cincinnati Union No. 2 donated $25, and Cleveland Union No. 11 sent $10 in aid of the Hocking Valley miners.

Bro. D. F. Sleeper, of this city, has removed to Brunswick, Georgia, owing to inability to secure employment here.

Our General Secretary spoke in Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 2, to a large audience under the auspices of Carpenter Union No. 65.

St. Augustine, Fla., is at work to start a local union; so is Lincoln, Neb. A union of white carpenters will be the next in Charleston.

Our new union in New Orleans—Union No. 76—is in a fair way to prosper. It has got into good working order and applications are pouring in.

The Furniture Workers International Union will send out an organizer after New Years. Why can't our Brotherhood do the same? The General Secretary's duties are becoming so weighty that he cannot spare the time to travel.

The different trades around the falls, Louisville, Ky., have organized themselves into unions, with the exception of two or three. The carpenters are talking up the brotherhood, with a fair prospect of an early organization.—*Louisville Post.*

A boss-house framer in New York gave notice to his men that he wanted ten hours' work instead of nine a day. They struck, and he advertised for others. A number of non-union men applied, but when they learned the cause they refused to accept the job. So some non-union men have principle after all. And they should certainly be in the union.

WHEN filing hand-saws there are two objects to be kept in view, namely, cutting off the fiber of the wood, and removing it as fast as it is severed. If the teeth be filed too fleaming, they will cut faster than they will remove the saw-dust. On the contrary, if the faces near the points be not dressed fleaming enough, the saw will *tear* out the kerf in a rough manner, rather than *cut* its way through the timber.—*Exchange.*

A new story of Carlyle is afloat in London. One evening the sage of Chelsea was talking of books in a small but somewhat miscellaneous company, when a yong nobleman, an Oxford student announced that he didn't care much for works that expressed merely the author's theories and opinions, to which Carlyle gravely replied, "Young sir, once upon a time there was a man in France whose name was Rosseau, and he wrote a book which was filled with theories and opinions. And the young nobility and fops of the period said that the book was wind. But, young sir, it is an incident of history that their skins went to bind the second edition of that book!"

HELP THE HOCKING VALLEY STRIKE.

The contest between the Miners and Coal Corporations in the Hocking Valley, Ohio, still continues with unabated interest. There is not in this country a more thorough illustration of imposition than the company which has robbed the Hocking miners of their just rights. There have been no men who have more gallantly defended their rights than the miners. They require maintenance to continue the struggle to a successful issue. The company has already lost more than a million dollars, and has been compelled to borrow money to pay interest on its bonds. Others and lesser parties to the tyranny are driven to the verge of bankruptcy. Feed the miners of the Hocking and their families, and they will yet celebrate a notable victory for labor. Brothers! Send on any financial assistance you can. Bring the matter before your Union at its next meeting and let the help be given speedily. Send money to Samuel E. Davis, New Straitsville, Ohio, as he is Treasurer of the fund.

SOME BOYCOTT NEWS.

For twenty years the St. Louis *Republican* was not strictly a union office. But a six months' boycott cured it of its ancient manners and evil ways and now it hires none but union men.

The *Morning Herald* and the *Evening News*, of Baltimore, both "rat" concerns not long ago, are now union offices. Boycotting brought them to time. The only "rat" office there now is a German paper.

The boycott on the Indianapolis *Journal* has been renewed, as that paper has broken its promises to the union. Meanwhile the boycott of the New York *Tribune* and the Philadelphia *Press* still continues unabated.

—During our Cincinnati convention the delegates were very much pleased with the society badges of Union No. 2, which were made by Chas. Svensden, 84 West Court St., Cincinnati. Mr. Svensden takes occasion to advertise in our columns, and for good work at reasonable prices, we can recommend him, and we solicit for him the patronage of our local unions and friends.

The forty coal miners, charged with conspiring for interfering with non-union men during the Fourth Pool strike, were arranged yesterday at Washington, Penn. By agreement they made no defence, and were fined each one cent and costs, which was paid by the county commissioner. President Costello and Secretary Flannery have charges still pending against them.

At last President Arthur has appointed a Commissioner of the National Labor Bureau. The appointee is JOHN FEHRENBATCH, of Cincinnati, who for some years has held office under the United States Government as Inspector of Steam Vessels for the Ohio River District. Fehrenbatch at one time was President of the National Union of Machinists and Blacksmiths, when its headquarters were located in this city; and at present he is a member of a trades union known as "The Queen City Council of Engineers," in Cincinnati.

TRADE ITEMS.

Chicago Trades Assembly is again at work on a plan to establish its own hall.

The telegraphers' strike cost the Western Union company over one millions of dollars.

If Trades Unions were not beneficial why are there a million and a-half members of unions in this country and the number constantly growing?

The General Union of Operative Carpenters and Joiners, of England, has 68 local unions and 1,748 members in good standing, with headquarters in Liverpool. This society has been 60 years in existence.

The New York unions represented in the Amalgamated building trades council instruct their members to suspend work in every case where the walking delegates are refused admission to the job.

The Trade news of THE CARPENTER is copied extensively by all the technical journals and labor papers of the country; this demonstrates that our humble journal is accepted as an authority in such matters.

Union No. 36, Oakland, Cal, is prospering, and Bro. Stephens reports that Benicia and Santa Rosa unions have dissolved for want of energy among their members. Union No. 36 has lost Bro. John Shaw, who died Oct. 27, but papers were not in order and are referred back.

Trades unionism, despite all its opponents say against it, contains the elements of a future industrial society, but vast strides and several departures are necessary before it can evolute out of its existing barbarism into an intelligent and comprehensive system of industrial government.

In the street car strike in New Orleans the mayor of the city told the companies they would have to resume running or their charters would be forfeited. This brought them to time. Why don't the Governor of Ohio do the same with the railroad and mine syndicate in the Hocking Valley?

The carpenters in many cities have a grievance called "lumping," or piece work, practiced on speculative buildings. The boss contractors first introduced it, but the speculating builders found out they could save the margin by dealing directly with the workmen, and they do so under a system of sub-contracts.

The Philadelphia *Tocsin* comes to us in a new typographical dress, and it has come to stay. It is a sprightly little boycotting sheet filled with labor news and well worth the investment of 50 cents for a year's subscription. We commend it to the support of the members of Union No. 8.

Ready-made wooden houses, imported from America, are selling as a novelty at Buenos Ayres. The demand for habitation at that place has been so great that the provincial government could not wait for the slow process of brick and mortar; hence ready-made houses had to be imported. It is anticipated that a large trade in them will be done.

THE CARPENTER.

Entered at the Post Office in Cleveland as second class matter.

CLEVELAND, DECEMBER, 1884.

IN THE HOCKING VALLEY.

There's a stain on the sod by the river side,
A dark, red spot on the emerald sward
Which the clust'ring grass tries in vain to hide;
For the tale is told by murmuring tide,
And the wind sighs low in sad accord.

Out from earth's caverns, dark and cold,
The miners thronged when the word was said;
Nerved by the sense of wrongs untold
To wage grim war 'gainst the greed of gold,
For the the sacred right to home and bread.

A "strike," it was called by a sycophant press,
Aye, a strike as our fathers struck of yore,
A strike for the right to a wife's caress,
For the smile of child, for the tenderness
Of a happy home—no less, no more.

A strike for the wages honestly earned
In the gloom of the pit, 'mid the deadly damp,
Where the flickering flame oft feebly burned,
And the terrible truth too late is learned
Of the lurking death in the careless lamp.

A strike for the cottage out on the slope,
Seen by daylight but once in a week,
But yet in our heaven the star of hope,
Through the weary hours giving strength to cope
With danger and dark, the gas, the leak.

And yet when we struck, the arm of the law
The "law of the people," our masters say,
Was stretched in its might, and into the maw
Of the jail we were flung—and, cruel, we saw
Our wives and children torn shrieking away.

That night on the banks of the Hocking River,
The crack of the rifle rang out on the air,
And a brave young heart was stilled forever;—
But the echoes awakened will quiet never,
For the sleeping lion is roused from his lair.

—F. K. F. in the Haverhill Laborer

—Union No. 2, Cincinnati, Ohio, is conducting a series of very successful public meetings to discuss the 9 hour question, and gathering in members by that means.

—Union No. 61, Columbus, Ohio, is taking great interest in the *Union Advocate* of that city, and we don't care who knows it when we say that the *Advocate* is well worthy of it.

—The National Association of Wood Carvers held a four days' convention in New York, and resolved to direct their membership to prepare to put into practical operation the recommendation of the Federation of Trades, that all Labor Unions so direct their laws as to reduce the working day to eight hours on and after May 1, 1886.

—A friend of ours called a meeting of carpenters in Dayton, O., lately, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Brotherhood. Out of 800 carpenters only four could be found who had the necessary "back bone" to organize. This shows a slavish condition of indifference which is not likely to be disturbed while these men can secure a bread and water diet.

—A test case of blacklisting is made now in the courts by a brakeman, who sues a railroad company for damages in preventing him from getting work by sending his name around to the other companies, with a request not to hire him on account of his activity in the labor movement. This species of capitalistic persecution needs the severest rebuke.

—The *Union Advocate*, Columbus, O., speaks of one of the members of Union No. 61 as follows: John Cook, the well known carpenter, demonstrated the fact, on the occasion of the recent fire in the Case Manufacturing Company, that he would make a first-class fire laddie. John worked with a will in saving chests of tools etc., belonging to former fellow workmen, and many are the thanks showered upon him.

—Omaha Local Union, No. 58, had a very large and successful ball on Oct. 30th, and in speaking of it the Omaha *Independent* says: "There was one noticeable feature, and that was that there never did assemble a more intelligent and highly respectable crowd on an occasion of this kind before in this city, and we doubt very much if a much more social gathering ever before tripped the light fantastic.

AN EMPLOYER WHO BELIEVES IN FAIR PLAY.

Mr. W. P. Rend, of Chicago, is a large coal operator in the Hocking Valley. His mines are the only ones in which no reduction of wages has been proposed, and for this reason the railroad syndicate in the Hocking Valley has made it impossible for him to get his coal to market. At first they refused to carry his coal; this he overcome by an injunction of the courts compelling the railroads to serve him. And now the syndicate has adopted a system of extra charges and put so many difficulties in Mr. Rend's way that he is practically unable to get his coal to market.

Not long since Mr. Rend expressed himself in very forcible language to a Pittsburgh reporter. He said: "Whenever labor is hungry it becomes rebellious and refuses to be satisfied with promises or explanations. It is dangerous to the peace and security of society when oppressed labor rises in open rebellion, as it stops within no bounds and acknowledges no restraint of either law or reason. It is a most proper duty to prevent by all possible means contests and collisions between capital and labor, and to remove all hatred and jealousy between these great forces. This question itself is no new one, but is virtually as old as civilizaiion itself. It has in various shapes been tought over in thousands of conflicts and bloody wars in ancient times throughout European countries. It is, in fact, the struggle between those who have and those who have not; between the rich and the poor. Duty then to society demands we protect as far as possible those whose lot it is to live upon the wages of their daily toil. On the grounds then of justice and humanity such demands as those made by the Hocking Valley operators to reduce the wages of their miners are deserving of the severest condemnation as they tend to degrade and injure the cause of labor. Last June, when the reduction was made, the operators believed they had the miners by the throat and in a few days would choke them into submission. But in this fancied belief they were deceived, as in the contest the miners have been growing stronger, while the employers have been growing weaker.

Funds are pouring in from all quarters more freely than ever to aid the locked-out men and their families, and they have at least enough to eat and to sustain themselves in the struggle. Now, then, in this country, so rich and prosperous, and so full of food, and with employment so abundant, there is no necessity of reducing labor to the European standard. During the panic period, as an employer, I often cursed the painful necessity that forced me to ask for lower wages from miners in my employ. Against my will I was forced into long strikes and severe struggles to reduce wages simply because in competitive coal field relatively lower rates had been established. I was pained and deeply regretted to be forced to ask men who had been getting none too much to accept still less, but there was no alternative left except to run at a loss, and perhaps be driven to financial ruin.

With this experience, and for the reason I have already given you, I am now firmly opposed to the reduction policy. Outside of all this the relations between capital and labor are of such mutual dependence, and their interests are so vast and important to the peace, progress and prosperity of society, that it is a common duty to aid in every way to maintain between them peace and harmony. This problem, although most complicated and difficult of solution, should now and in the future be treated, to the greatest possible extent, with the methods no reason and conciliation. Employers and employed should meet as common friends, discuss their common interests and settle their relations in accordance with common justice, common fairness and common sense.

—Carpenters' Union No. 55, Denver, Col., had a pleasant sociable, Nov, 8.

WHEN TO AVOID STRIKES.

Mr. Andrew Roy, former mine inspector of Ohio, recently addressed a labor organization, from which we quote the following, relating as it does to a very important subject—the policy of strikes. He says:

"I am, as I always have been and hope to continue to be, opposed to strikes; they ought to be the last argument, not the first, for the redress of even just grievances. The right to strike workingmen should never surrender, but it is surely the extreme of folly to engage in a strike of several months' duration and then be compelled to accept any terms employers may see fit to dictate. There is a time to strike as there is a time for all things. The time is not when trade is dull, but when trade is good. My advice is in fighting employers, never engage in a strike on a falling market; fall back rather till business takes a turn for the better; then harass employers with demands for such advance in wages as the rising market will justify, and they will yield without a strike. In other words adopt the tactics of employers; when trade is dull and prices falling in the market they seek to reduce wages, and succeed, though often at a dear cost to both interests, as the many long strikes testify. When trade revives and prices go up workingmen should make demands for corresponding advances, and employers will yield. They will never stop when trade is good and they are making money. This is their harvest, and is yours, too, if you are wise and will take advantage of the situation.

Strikes will give way before advancing intelligence of workingmen. They will be followed by arbitration, and arbitration will be succeeded by co-operation, which is the just and final solution of the labor problem."

THE RESULTS OF MACHINERY.

No carpenter in a city now thinks of lugging about a 300 pound chest of tools, consisting only of moulding, sash and match planes, as many in the country did in former years, in addition to the ordinary chest of tools which came into everyday use. Nowadays fine office and store fixtures, and much other work, comes from the mill in such shape that a couple of ordinary clever workmen, with only a shoulder box full of tools between them, will put it up more rapidly than the thoroughly trained carpenters of old times after making the fixtures by hand. The proportionate number of good carpenters is decreasing from this, and the fact is that when a man finds himself good at any particular branch of the business, he follows it in preference to any other, and finds it more profitable to do so.

The largest room in the world, and unbroken by a pillar, is at St. Petersburgh. It is 620 feet long by 150 in breadth. By daylight it is used for military displays, and a battalion can completely manœuver in it. The roof of this structure is a single arch of iron, and it exhibits a remarkable engineering skill in the architect.

The *Building and Engineering Times* very truly says, that there is nothing yet invented that can be said to be absolutely fireproof which affords protection to window spaces or doorways, although the heavy wooden door or shutter encased in tin has undoubted advantages. If two thickness of inch board—pine being preferable, because it does not warp—are nailed crosswise and fully encased in tin, locked and soldered, and thoroughly nailed under the locking, the outer surface of the wood under the tin will be speedily reduced to charcoal by the heat, through the combustion of the small amount of oxygen under the tin. The charcoal itself then becomes a very effective non-conductor of heat, and, if the tin is tight, so that no further supply of oxygen reaches the unburnt wood beneath the charcoal, it will remain cool and strong for some hours, thus giving time to control the fire where it starts. Iron doors and shutters, on the contrary, when exposed to severe heat, become so quickly warped and twisted as to be practically useless as safeguards.

SPLINTERS.

—Omaha Union No. 58 proposes to agitate the 9 hour question.

An English court has fined a brickfield owner £5 for employing a 13-year-old lad as a "full-timer;" and fined the boy's father 10 shillings for conniving at the illegality.

The tinners of Baltimore, who recently struck against turning over certain portions of their work to be done by machinery, thereby reducing their wages, have been successful and they are again at work.

During the past year the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers have added 24 new divisions to its fold, making a total of 258 divisions and a membership of 16,000, among which are a number of young men.

Contrary to the general drift, an increase of 12½ to 15 per cent. is to be made in the wages of the operatives in the Atlantic mills, at Olneyville, R. I., and manufacturing interests in that place appear to be flourishing.

A commendable step has been taken by the Baltimore Federation of Trades. It has thrown its hall open as a reading room and a resort for workingmen. A library will soon be founded in connection with the rooms.

The New Orleans street car drivers' strike ended by a compromise. The men demanded $60 a month. The companies agree to pay $55 for fifteen hours' work a day. The former pay was $45 for eighteen hours' work a day.

The Cigar Makers' Union of Grand Rapids, Mich., shows a wonderful example of devotion to their craft. For over seven months it has assessed its members 45 cents a week in aid of their locked out brothers in Cincinnati.

The Cattle Kings' Convention, representing *two billions of dollars*, met in St. Louis last month, 1 200 delegates present, and took steps to secure legislation from Congress to protect their monopoly interests. And yet there is no reason for workingmen to organize.

The Cigar makers in thirteen shops in Chicago were offered 10 per cent reduction recently. The men acted, International and Progressive, together, and the offer of reduction was withdrawn. Had they been disorganized it would have been otherwise.

Labor men in Detroit, Mich., by fusing with both parties, have elected five representatives to the State Legislature. They got three of their men on one ticket and two on the other, and by voting solidly for them, regardless of party, they managed to elect them.

Carpenters' Union No. 1, Washington, D. C., have issued a boycotting order against the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company for their refusal to employ union men in the construction of their new stables. The Federation of Trades and Labor Unions have endorsed their action, and the fight is now pushed with energy.

As examples of the power and influence of well disciplined trades unions we will cite a few facts: The Cigar Makers International Union have sent over $150,000 to the support of their locked-out brothers in Cincinnati during the past 39 weeks, and are ready to raise the same amount over again. The printers of New York have spent fully $10,000 in boycotting the Tribune, and it has all been raised by voluntary subscriptions of the members.

The Baker Conspiracy law of Michigan, is a disgrace to the statute books of that State, and, like the conspiracy laws of other states, it was enacted solely to deprive labor of the benefits of association, while granting the right to employers to combine as they please. Monarchial England has long since repealed all such laws, while here in some States of free America we are made felons if we dare to assert our organized power. Such unjust laws must be repealed!

AN EMPLOYER W… REDUCED W…

BEST SECURITY AND PROTECTION. Judge Thomas M. Cooley of the Su-

FEELINGS OF A SCAB. We would like to know the thought

ONLY A DOLLAR A DAY.

A rich man sat by his festive board;
The wine flowed ruby and gay;
"Go, lower the wages of my toiling horde,"
Cried he, "to a dollar a day!
A dollar a day will buy them bread,
Water is cheap and healthy they say;
Let them strike and starve," was all he said,
"Or toil for a dollar a day."

A poor man sat in his little hut,
Watching his children play;
The good wife rocked her white faced babe;
As she thought of a dollar a day.
A dollar a day will scarce buy bread—
From hand to mouth—from day to day;
"If I strike they starve," was all he said—
Only a dollar a day!

The rich man lay on his lordly bed,
Pale as the crescent beams
Of the midnight moon—the watch-dog howled
As a spectre crossed his dreams;
The festive board of the banquet hall
Gleamed in the crescent ray—
Where the phantom guests were reveling
A shadowy casket lay.

The poor man's hut was silent and dark,
And waiting the coming light;
The good wife sat by her silent babe,
Sobbing away the night,
Silent and cold, with never a cry
To answer its mother's pain—
An empty cradle and a sleeping babe,
Ne'er to be rocked again.

An angel stood by the gates of pearl,
Watching the golded walls,
When a cherub and a rich man's soul
Came to enter the marble halls.
"Welcome! sweet cherub," the angel cried,
"But thou accursed one, stay!
Across thy brow is the brand of Cain—
Thou gavest but a dollar a day."

BRITISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

Aberdeen, Scotland, was the meeting place of the British Trades Union Congress, on September 8th, this year. One hundred and forty delegates were present, which was a good attendance, considering the distance to be travelled.

The annual report of the Parliamentary Committee was exceedingly interesting. It narrated the efforts of the committee to secure laws relating to electoral reform, accidents in factories, education of children, mine inspectors, extension of the hours of voting, protection of the lives of seamen and railway employes, postal savings banks, and a reduction of the hours of labor for women and children employed in stores. The subjects of productive co-operation and international relations were also thoroughly discussed. The workingmen's conference, at Paris, this year, was made a prominent part of the report. It went on to say that the conference was the first practical step to secure the fraternization of the workingmen of all countries, and proved the desire of the workingmen, everywhere, to establish closer international relations. As might be expected, many diverse opinions were expressed in the conference, as to the means to be used to uplift the workers. The French workingmen's party, who had convoked the conference, demanded the intervention of the State in questions of labor. The French anarchists demanded an immediate and violent revolution. The English delegates insisted upon the necessity of a more complete organization of workingmen, based upon the principles of trades unions: 1—To sustain their position against capitalists; 2—To obtain the necessary legislation to safeguard the interests of workingmen. The Italian and Spanish delegaies sustained the socialists' opinions but conceived a good impression of the solidity and practical utility of the English unions.

Since then, however, great progress has been made in France in the organization of trades unions, and the number of them has very largely increased. The political voting strength of the French workingmen has trebled meanwhile, and many of their own class are now members of the various city governments. The report further mentions, as a result of the conference, that during the strike of the sailors, in Genoa, Italy, a number of sailors who were hired in Marseilles, France, refused to take their fellow workmen's places, upon learning there was a strike.

After some general remarks, the report concluded by stating that $5,500 had been subscribed by the unions dur… the year to sustain the congress. The report was discussed point by point and unanimously adopted.

During the congress Mr. Henry Broadhurst, secretary of the Parliamentary Committee, for his able services on behalf of the labor interests, was presented with a testimonial of $6,000 in gold, and an address on vellum. It was stated that the government had offered Mr. Broadhurst the position of chief inspector, under the new law, to regulate the hygiene of the boats and the education of the children of the population of the canals of England. The salary is $2,500 per year. However, Mr. Broadhurst preferred to remain in the service of the trades unions, although he receives only $1,000 per year. The warmest applause greeted this. For years Mr. Broadhurst has worked to organize the trades, and from his position as a journeyman stone mason he has become a member of parliament which in England requires an immense effort on the part of a workingman. The presentation of this testimonial was a worthy mark of the esteem in which Mr. Broadhurst is held by the working class of England, and is further an evidence that they appreciate the labor of their officers.

Denver, Col,

Work dull; principally repairs and jobbing going on. On November 8, Euclid Hall was well filled by a large audience who had come to take part in the second sociable of Union No. 55. The following report is one abbreviated from that published in the Denver *Labor Enquirer*.

The meeting was opened by President Muirhead in the chair, and piano music by Miss Mattie Minor. J. D. Bally delivered an address of welcome, explaining the objects, aims, etc., of the Brotherhood of Carpenters. After more music Mr. R. G. Balcomb addressed the audience on the necessity of organization.

Mr. Gilman read an essay on "Perseverence. Next was song and music by Mr. Kinsman, and a poem by Mr. George E. Grey. The union was then presented by Mr. Frank Boyer with a beautiful wooden dish and a fruit stand, which was raffled off at ten cents a chance. Mr. Peter Donovan drew the dish and Mrs. E. E. Rice the fruit stand.

Refreshments and lemonade, prepared by the ladies, were indulged in, and Mr. Minor, on the violin, and Mrs. Kinsman on the piano, furnished dancing music for the guests.

A beautiful cake was presented to the union by Mrs. Minor with the initials C. U., a representation of a saw, hammer, etc., on it. It was also raffled off and Mr. Higgins was the lucky man; but Mr. Higgins did not carry the cake away. The cry of "I am hungry" all over the hall was heard, so Mrs. Higgins sliced it up, passed it around and it was soon eaten.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. Minor for her donation, and to the musicians for their services. Three cheers were given to Mr. Frank Bower for his dish and fruit stand. A fair amount was realized by the raffles and another merry dance was engaged in, and near the hour of midnight all started for their homes perfectly satisfied that the second sociable of Carpenters' Union No. 55, was a grand success, so much so that they have decided to have a sociable once a month during the winter. The second regular meeting in each month is set apart for that purpose in order to have a good time and build up the union.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.

We are working at some disadvantage, but we are determined to succeed. We had a good meeting Nov. 15. Four of the members from Omaha Union No. 58 paid us their promised visit, and Brother Reeves entertained us in good style for a couple of hours.

Detroit, Mich.

On January 1, 1885, Union No. 10 will have a social gathering. Propositions for membership in our union are coming in steadily and next month we wi l have double our membership. This union is bound to succeed for it has the best men in the trade.

New Orleans, La.

Work is fair; $3 per day to best workmen, but the city is crowded with men looking for work on the Exposition Buildings. Union 76 is officered as follows:—President, Wm. Hyland; vice-president, J. C. Sullivan; recording secretary, J. J. Sullivan; financial secretary, E. M. Jones; cor. secretary, J. G. Bloomer; treasurer, D. G. Kister; conductor, W. A. Vanwranken; warden, Robt. Keliond. We downed the Exposition Building managers not long ago. They wanted us to work from 7 until 12, go to work at 12:30 and quit at 5:30. When the bell rang at 12:30 not a man answered the summons except three imported foremen from Mississippi. We all went home and left our case in the hands of a committee with full power. After being out one day our committee then went and named the terms we would go to work for. First, go to work at 7 a. m., work till 12, one hour for dinner, go to work at 1 and work until dark; 2nd, a full day's pay for this day as it was not our fault for losing the first quarter; 3rd, they must remove those three foremen that went to work at 12.30 to some other building, as we would not work with them. They granted everything without a murmur.

A FABLE WITH A MORAL.

Now, there was a wicked and accursed man. And this man was strong and hated work, so that he said to himself: "What shall I do? If I work not I shall die, and labor is to me intolerable."

Then there entered into his heart a thought born in hell. He went in the night and seized certain of his brethren while they slept, and bound them with chains.

"For, said he, I will force them with whips and scourges to toil for me, and I will eat the fruit of their labor."

And he did that which he had resolved; and others, seeing it, did likewise, and the men of the earth were no longer brothers, but only masters and slaves.

This was a day of mourning and sadness over all the face of the earth.

A long time afterwards there arose another man, whose cruelty and wickedness exceeded the cruelty and wickedness of the first man.

Seeing that men multiplied everywhere, and that the multitude of them was innumerable, he said to himself:

"I could indeed enchain some of these, and force them to work for me; but it would be necessary to feed and otherwise maintain them, and that would diminish my gains. I will do better: I will let them work for nothing; they will die, in truth, but their number is great; I will amass a fortune before their number is largely diminished, and there will always remain enough of them."

Now all this multitude of men might live on what they received in exchange for their labor.

Having thus spoken, he addressed himself seperately to some of them, and said: "You work six hours, and you receive a piece of money for your labor; work twelve hours and you will receive two pieces of money, and you and your wives and little ones will live better."

And they believed him.

Then he said to them: "You work only half the days of the year; work every day in the year and your gains will be doubled."

And they believed him still.

Now it happened that, the quantity of labor having been doubled without any increase in the demand therefore, the half of those previously living by their labor could find no one to employ them. Then the wicked man whom they had believed said to them: "I will give labor to all, under condition that you labor the same length of time; and that I will pay only half so much as I have been in the habit of doing; because I indeed wish to render you a service, but I do not wish to ruin myself."

And as they, their wives, and little ones were suffering the pangs of hunger, they accepted the proposal of the wicked man, and they blessed him; for, said they, "He gives us our life."

And, continuing to deceive them in the same manner, the wicked man ever increased their labor and ever diminished their wages.

And they died for the lack of the necessaries of life, and others pressed forward to take their places; for poverty had become so terrible in the land, that entire fami ies sold themselves for a morsel of bread.

And the wicked, cruel man, who had lied to his brothers, amassed a larger fortune than the wicked man who had enslaved them,

The name of the latter is Tyrant; but the former has no name save in Hell itself.

LAMENNAIS.

—*From "Les Pareles d'un Croyant."*

In ENGLAND there are 1,200 co-operative societies, with 600,000 members representing 2,500,000 people, or one twelfth of the whole population. The capital stock amounts to $45,000,000, and the profits to $10,000,000, yearly. The wholesale society has branches and depots in Scotland, Ireland, France and Denmark, and owns three large steamers plying between England and the

NOTES AND QUERIES

F. S. CHICAGO, ILL.—Which is the best work on stair building?

Ans.—Some prefer Gould's "American Stair Builder," on account of its simplicity; others again prefer Monckton's "National Stair Builder," a good work, as it gives many good lines and drawings But as a rule Riddell's System of Stair Building" is most generally adopted as it gives the best lines and the quickest methods of work, though more difficult to understand than the others.

T. J.M., BOSTON, MASS.—In what way can the members of our Brotherhood secure advertisements for THE CARPENTER?

Ans.—By presenting the advantages of THE CARPENTER as an advertising medium to the notice of tool manufacturers and hardware merchants you deal with. Advertising rates furnished upon application to this office.

P. L.B., TOLEDO, O.—Can you recommend Hodgson's book on "The Steel Square and How to Use It?"

Ans.—We can, as it is the best in the market on the subject.

C. J. D., SanFrancisco.—What is the best plan to keep members from falling into arrears? Out of the hundreds initiated into our Brotherhood each month not half of them remain good members. This is true of other labor societies as well, and even to a greater extent. I would like some suggestions from our members.

Ans.—Referred to our readers, and perhaps next month we will take up the matter.

W. J. R. OMAHA, NEB.—What is the best plan to gain information of the state of trade and all other particulars required on page 16, section 9, of our General Laws? It is highly essential to have this law carried out. To ask it from the members in the meeting does not seem to attain the desired end, as that order of business is near the close of the meeting and most of the members by that time have retired. Would like to have the opinion and experience of some Cor. Sec. in reference to it. Could there not be some simultaneous action this Winter for each union to take in the next nearest city and organize it? It would just double our number of unions, and increase the membership, so that where a brother travels he would find a union.

STRIKES.

Does any one believe the present relations between Capital and Labor can endure? They will endure just as long as the laborer is imbruited and does not know his own worth.

Think what Capital is. It is sinews and nerves in metallic forms: it is accumulated headaches and heartaches of drudges, seamstresses, servants: it is a catacomb of human bones. Your pound sterling represents so much labor—that is its only value.

Think what Labor is. It is the one thing valuable: without it your bread is field-dust: your butter, grass. Take it away from your ship, and, lo! you are a savage swimming on a log: from your fine dwelling, and you must burrow like a mole for every stone in it.

So long as Labor holds in unconsciousness the keys of the gateways to all good, it will be cheated as were the Red Indians, who were easily enticed to sell States for glass beads. But the Titans will not slumber for ever. The poor school, the penny press, have not been so unproductive as some suspect. That man should be a hammer without the added god can never be the perpetual fact of society. Therefore the hammer STRIKES.—*Moncure D. Conway.*

No man has a right to monopolize more than he can enjoy What the rich give to the poor, while millions are starving, is not a perfect favor, but an imperfect right.—*Shelley.*

"In Upper Austria," writes a correspondent, "I saw a slight and very pretty young girl carrying the mortar up to the second story of a building, while a man waited there to put it in place when she arrived." That is a cheap labor country!

THE CARPENTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners

OF AMERICA.

Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O.

TERMS.—Fifty cents a year, in advance, post paid.

Address, P. J. McGUIRE,
Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O.

CLEVELAND, DECEMBER, 1884.

OUR RULE OF ACTION.

The Fourth Annual Convention of our Brotherhood, at Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 5—9, 1884, adopted the following resolution unanimously:

WHEREAS, The opinion prevails generally that Trades Unions encourage shirking and teach men to do as little work as possible,

Resolved, That we hold it as a sacred principle that Trades Union men above all others should set a good example as good and faithful workmen, honorable in the performance of their duties to their employers.

—*Our Rule of Action* has been quoted by all the labor papers of the country and by many of the employers' trade journals and the daily press, and on all hands it has been endorsed most heartily. We shall keep it standing at the head of this column, and fling it to the breeze, that all the world may know one of our cardinal principles.

No Anti-Monopoly cry that does not advocate a reduction of the hours of labor is worthy the attention of the humblest laborer in the land.

To all our Brothers and friends of Labor, we wish a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May prosperity come to cheer the hearts of those who are sad, may joy reign in every household, may poverty and sorrow pass away, and the New Year bring with it glad tidings of better times.

The great need of this country is to encourage home trade by making the masses larger consumers. To reduce wages is to strike at home trade by decreasing consumption. Why can't employers see this?

What are we coming to, anyhow? All around us we observe reductions of wages, short time and wholesale discharges for workingmen, with bankruptcy and failures for business men. Surely these are all the signs of a panic—an industrial crisis. Now, we can see what will become of the unorganized workingmen!

If employers take advantage of dull times to reduce wages, how can the workers be blamed for retaliating by a strike for more pay when times are good? In our opinion the better plan would be for employers to recognize Trades Unions, and then fix upon a scale of wages with them which would hold good for a year. This would save the strikes and lockouts, and disturbances in trade which now occur.

May 1st, 1886, will be a glorious day for the workers of this country! On that day they can assert their manhood and achieve a greater independence than ever was known in the history of the human race. On that day they can inaugurate the Eight Hour System as recommended by the National Trades Congress. All our energies must be bent to that end and the movement must be made universal and simultaneous.

STOP THIS SUICIDAL POLICY.

This suicidal policy of reducing wages is no remedy for a depression in trade. It only intensifies it by curtailing the means of the workmen to buy what is needed for themselves and families.

Just in proportion as wages are reduced generally so to that extent the consumption of products is diminished and home markets are made to suffer. Hence, it should be to the interest of every store keeper and merchant to uphold high wages that they may find ready sales here at home for their goods. And for the manufacturers it would be far more profitable to find their wares easily disposed of, than to crowd their factories with an "overproduction" of goods, that will diminish in price below the cost of production.

Great attention is paid by statesmen and business men to the extension of trade into foreign markets, but if they would pay one-half the same attention to the perpetuation of home markets, they would find an abundance of customers here at home. They need not follow the English policy of securing a world's market by pauperizing the laborers of their own land. The greatness of a country like ours depends not upon its accumulation of wealth, but upon the sterling manhood of its people. To crush down this manhood by reducing wages and crying out for Cheap Labor is to assassinate the Republic.

The only remedy is: Pay to the workers the full amount of their labor—all that their labor aids to produce. Then they can buy back enough of the products of the country to save us from a depression in business. Will the capitalists do this? If not, then the workers must combine to secure it. At any rate this suicidal policy of cutting down wages must be stopped!

UNION MEN NOT REDUCED.

As an evidence of the respect commanded by union men, no better proof can be given than the following Associated Press dispatch published in the daily papers of Dec. 2:

PITTSBURG, PA., Dec. 2.—Jones & Laughlins, of the American Iron works, this evening notified their machinists, blacksmiths and all other employes, except *Amalgamated Association scale men*, that on next Monday their wages would be reduced 10 per cent. About twelve hundred men will be affected.

Amid all the daily reports of reductions of wages we have found more than a dozen instances like the above, where the "Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers" have been made an exception in the screwing down process. That this is so, is plainly due to the fact, that the repeated battles of the Amalgamated with their employers have taught the latter, that the men are in a compact and well disciplined organization with plenty of funds in their treasury and not so likely to stand reductions of wages as the disorganized mass. Hence a regular scale of wages is maintained from year to year.

On the railroads the trackmen and laborers are being reduced but no one hears of any cut in the pay of the locomotive engineers or firemen. The fact of the latter being organized saves them from becoming the prey of the corporations. So it is with every well organized trade in the country. Only the disorganized masses outside of trades unions are being reduced. And they have no one to blame for it but themselves! This should be a lesson to many of the "proud" carpenters who think themselves "too independent" to join a union. The "independence" will soon be knocked out of them by a cut in wages.

HOW WE STAND.

Considerable discussion has been provoked in labor papers over the rule of the Amalgamated Carpenters that prohibits its members from belonging to other trades unions. As far as we are concerned our position is well stated in the following resolution adopted by our last convention:

WHEREAS, Our Brotherhood is organized for the advancement of the interests of the carpenters everywhere and, as the interests of all carpenters are identical,

Resolved, That we sympathize with all sister organizations of our trade, and are ever ready to harmonize and co-operate with them for our own common good.

PITTSBURG OUGHT TO BE REPRESENTED.

The fact that there exists a body known as the "Federation of Trades' and Labor Unions of the United States and Canadas," seems to be lost sight of by the Pittsburg *Labor Herald* when it says:

Trades unions, mighty in their craft, are in a disorganized state so long as a grand federation of trades does not exist.

This Federation of Trades held its Fourth Annual Congress in Chicago in October, and, strange to say, not a single labor organization of Pittsburg was represented. We trust our friends of the *Labor Herald* will bring their influence to bear on the labor unions of Pittsburg to have them represented in the next session of the Federation which will be held next year in Washington, D. C. The tariff question should not keep them from attending.

SHORTER HOURS IN WINTER.

Now that the Winter is at our doors the bosses themselves are reducing the hours of labor to 8½ or 9 hours per day, on account of the shortness of the day, so as to save paying full wages. If the men would only keep to the shorter hours and refuse to go back to the ten hours when the Spring comes, then they would be far better off in the end. They would soon have better pay and secure it far more easily than if they return to the old ten hour system. It certainly stands to reason that if the men can live on the smaller pay in Winter on account of the shorter hours and when the expense of living is much more costly why can't they do so for their own interest the rest of the year? The reduction of the hours of labor can never be attained without some sacrifice on the part of the workmen. And the way to reach it is to begin right when the bosses want to increase the hours after they have reduced them.

ANOTHER BOSS WHO INCREASES WAGES WITHOUT BEING ASKED.

Last month we reported the fact that the CASE MANUFACTURING CO., Columbus, O., had voluntarily advanced the wages of its employes 10 per cent. This act is now supplemented by one of the same kind in Akron, O. FERDINAND SCHUMACHER, the noted Prohibitionist and mill owner, increased the wages of his employes 10 per cent. the past week. Mr. Schumachar owns the four largest mills in this city, the Akron Elevator and the Greentown Elevator; all his employes get the increase. He says he can see no necessity of the manufacturers reducing the wages of their employes.

In the midst of this so-called depression it is cheering to find such instances of heart and justice among capitalists. Were this plan adopted generally by the capitalists the much-talked-of "over production" would soon vanish, and work could be continued at an advantage even to the capitalists, who would find for their goods ready markets among the workmen.

PROCLAMATION TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 15, 1884.

BROTHERS:—By virtue of the power in me vested, as General President of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, I do hereby proclaim that the new Constitution, as framed by our Fourth Annual Convention in Cincinnati, O., and ratified by the unions, is the law of this Brotherhood and is enforced from the date of its adoption, Oct. 1, 1884. And all assessments on deaths occuring on or after that date shall be levied according to the new law. I trust that each and every member and every local union will see that the laws are faithfully obeyed and executed, and that all of us will co-operate to advance the interests of our Brotherhood.

Yours Fraternally,

J. F. BILLINGSLEY,
General President.

Attest: P. J. McGuire, General Secretary.

Bro. Lew Davidson, the F. S. of Boston Union No. 33, is a faithful, energetic worker, and was at one time a member of Philadelphia Union No. 8.

The trades union movement is the genuine labor movement. It is the future co-operative state of society in embryo. It is composed of wage laborers and is devoted to wage labor interests. It has nothing to do with middle class issues or middle class men. To some it may appear conservative, but to our mind it is the only real movement of genuine progress.—*Labor Standard.*

Proceedings of Executive Board.

Nov. 16—It was announced that THE CARPENTER had been entered in the Cleveland post office as second class matter. The question of aiding St. Louis to organize was deferred until a more favorable time. In the matter of a charter for a German Union in Chicago, it was decided that a charter be granted after all indebtedness of Union No. 21 is settled.

Nov. 25—Papers of incorporation for the Brotherhood were signed by the Executive Board and steps taken to have them filed with the Secretary of State, Columbus, O.

Dec. 2—All present except the G. S., who was absent to attend a meeting in Grand Rapids, Mich. An informal discussion took place as to the best means to promote the welfare of the Brotherhood.

Dec. 9—All present. By-Laws of Grand Rapids Union No. 65, read and approved, with a few recommendations. Postal from Halifax, N. S., that they were preparing to enter into the B. and its full benefits. A letter from the Secretary of State that amendment to articles of incorporation be made or fee for filing be increased. E. B., ordered that the Secretary of State be informed that the papers and fee sent to him correspond with those required by State law. Bro. Sleeper, the General Treasurer, is notified to file his bond within one week from date or his office will be declared vacant.

Charters were granted No. 78, Troy, N. Y.; No. 79, Richmond, Ind. Notice of the dissolution of Union No. 67, Humboldt, Ill., received. This Union dissolved because it would not be permitted to meet in Chicago.

A mass of papers relating to charter for German union in Chicago, also opinion of Gen. Vice President Boyer were received. Action deferred to await developments.

Statement of S. H. Kiler, San Rafael Union No. 35, received, also that of Bro. Sands. Action deferred.

Death assessments, Nos. 28, 29 and 30, were ordered; papers found correct. Papers from Oakland Union No. 56, referred back for date of investigation. Papers from Washington Union No. 1, referred back for certificate of Pres., F. S., and five members to certify as to good standing of member. Action of the G. S., in this matter and in calling for payment of death assessments endorsed. After transacting business of minor imporance, the E. B., adjourned.

General Officers of the Brotherhood.

General President—J. F. Billingsley, 322 13th St., S.W. Washington, D. C.

General Secretary—P. J. McGuire, Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1st Vice President—R. Stephens, 937 Campbell St., Oakland, Cal.

2d Vice President—W. J. Shields, Cheshire St., Jamaica Plains, Boston, Mass.

3d Vice President—Gus Brethauer, 16 Grant St., Cincinnati, O.

4th Vice President—F. E. Rames, 16 Bogard St., Charleston, S. C.

5th Vice President—L. J. Boyer, 491 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

6th Vice President—C. W. Green, 1313 Capital Ave., Omaha, Neb.

7th Vice President—Alex Edgar, 20 Henry St., Toronto, Canada.

8th Vice President—Wm. F. Eberhardt, 2046 N. 29th St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Corresponding Secretaries.

(The following list of Corresponding Secretaries of Carpenters Local Unions is published for the general information of our members and particularly for the benefit of our traveling brothers)

Alameda, Cal—John J. Boyle.

Alleghany City, Pa.—Thos. Cummings, 13 Lombard St.

Albany, N. Y.—Wendel Hans, 216 Morton St.

Baltimore, Md.—I. B. Aylsworth, 681 Pennsylvania Ave.

Battle Creek, Mich.—A. D. Bruce, box 223.

Boston, Mass.—W. T. McCormack, Boylston Ave., Ward 23., Jamaica Plains.

Benecia, Cal—J. H. Ostello.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—A. Turnbull, 63 Lawrence st.

Buffalo, N. Y.—Chas. G. King, 147 Johnson st.

Charleston, S. C.—W. H. Burgess, 5 Jasper Court.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.—J. C. Wheelon.

Chicago, Ill.—Thos. P. Doran, 105 Sigel St.

Cincinnati, O.—John Valerius, 288 Wade St.

Cleveland, O.—D. F. Sleeper, 41 William St. 6th Ward.

Columbus, O.—M. J. Meers, 169 McCoy st.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.—Geo. McPeek, 1124 South 6th St.

Covington, Ky.—M. Wagner, 195 East 13 St.

Denver, Col.—J. D. Bailey, 275 Antelope St.

Des Moines, Ia.—Henry Loveland, 309, 9th st.

Detroit, Mich.—C. F. Schmidt, 221 High St. West.

Eau Claire, Wis.—C. H. Eaton, 418 5th Ave.

Englewood, Ill.—I. D. Schlipp, Box 322.

Fall River, Mass.—P. Doyle, 12 Mason St.

Guelph, Can.—David Adam, Wellington st.

Germantown, Pa.—(Branch I, Union No 8.) James O'Brien, cor Woodbine Ave. and Chew St.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—J. M Hall 46 Clark st.

Hartford, Conn.—D. Geddie, 125 Main St.

Halifax, Nova Scotia.—John Saxton, 76 Birmingham St.

Hamilton, Can.—E. Hancock, 241 Bay st., N.

Hammond, Ind.—F. Hohman.

Houston, Tex.—S. R Lonquecker, Center st., 5th ward.

Humboldt, Ill., Town of Jefferson.—Aug. Krause, Box 287.

Indianapolis, Ind.—A. H. Haines, 520 East Ohio St.

Kansas City, Mo.—J. C. Egly, 1004 Julia Ave.

Kensington Ill.—C. Gibson, Box 130.

Leavenworth, Kan.—T. F. McLaughlin, 710 Delaware steeet.

Los Angeles, Cal.—J. Wesley Wilson, 209 E. 5th St.

Memphis, Tenn.—Thos. A Murray, 284 3d St.

Middletown, O.—P. S. Williamson.

Milwaukee, Wis.—G. G. Suelflohn, 741 Booth street.

Morris Minn.—P. A. McCarthy, Box 146.

Nashville, Tenn.—A. D. Shegog, 705 Fatherland street.

Newark, N. J.—D. Murphy, 20 Morton St.

New Haven, Conn.—Room 23, Insurance Building, Chapel St.

New York, N. Y.—A. McIsaacs, 2070 2nd Ave.

New Orleans, La.—W. H. Barnes, care T. M. Smith, 215 South Liberty st.

New Orleans, La.—Union 76 (white,) J. G. Bloomer, 382 Magnolia st.

New Tacoma, Washington Ter.—S. D. Garrison.

Oakland, Cal.—R. Stephens, 937 Campbell st.

Omaha, Neb.—W. J. Reeves 1816 Izard st.

Paterson, N. J.—Labor Standard Office.

Pensacola, Fla.—J. S. Daniels, Box 651.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Saml. B. Reeves, 1030 Pine St; James Dey, walking delegate, 819 Callowhill st.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—D. Crawford, 265 Webster Avenue.

Providence, R. I.—O. L Paine, 39 Fifield Ave

Portland, Oregon.—Gordon Smart, 213 Montgomery St.

Raleigh, N. C.—Jas. O. Ruth, 510 N. West st.

Richmond, Ind.—J. D. Oaks, 415 N. 6th st.

Rushville, Ind.—J. C Gregg, Box 553.

Rochester, N. Y.—E. M. Blakeslee, 14 Edmonds street.

San Francisco, Cal.—J. D. Campbell, 517 Hayes St.

San Rafael, Cal.—R. C. Sands, Box 677.

St. Catherines, Canada.—H. Bald, Gen'l Delivery.

St. Louis, Mo.—C. Heep, 1217 Lucas Ave.

Santa Rosa, Cal.—J. Alex Thomson.

Seattle, Wash. Ter—James Sallee.

Savannah, Ga.—Benj. R. Young, 5 Pendergast and Jones Lane.

Syracuse, N. Y.—J. G. Snyder, 75 Oswego st.

Toledo, O.—M. J. Thomson, 72 Hewey St.

Toronto, Can.—Alex. Edgar, 20 Henry street.

Trenton, N. J.—Joseph H. Appleton, 50 Lamberton St.

Troy, N. Y.—E. J. Lake, lock box 99.

Utica, N. Y.—James H. Donaldson, 100 Seymour Ave.

Victoria, Brit. Col.—G. D. Roper, Box 323.

Washington, D. C.—R. L. Fowler, 901 24th St., N. W.

Wheeling, W. Va.—C. M. Rathbun, 86 South Huron St.

FROM OUR MAILS.

Morris Minn.

Trade dull. Wages $1.50 and $2. Board $3.50, $4 per week.

Boston, Mass.

Work not brisk. Wages $2 to $2.50. Cost of living high. Many out of work. Ball given by Union No. 33 is a grand success.

Kansas City, Mo.

Carpenter work is very dull, a great many first-class hands being idle, with poor prospects for the future. Wages, $2 to $2.50.

Hartford, Conn.

Union 43 gave a sociable on December 5 and it was a good one Trade is nothing extra at present. All union men employed. But very little prospects for winter

Troy, N. Y.

A local union, under jurisdiction of the Brotherhood, is at last started here, and we propose to pick out the best men and have none but energetic workers who will attend every meeting and work for the good cause.

Richmond, Ind.

We have started with 23 members—good mechanics, and will have over 50 before long. We intend to have every carpenter in Richmond a union man or make it so hot for them that they will have to leave the city. That's the only way! Wages here $1.25—$2.25, and plenty of idle men.

New Orleans, La.

Times hard, work getting very scarce and the city overcrowded with men who came to work on the exposition building, thinking it would be an Eldrado of steady work for them, but they are now cursing their luck Rent and board have run up very high of late.

Toledo, Ohio.

Work is in bad shape here at present, as the weather is bad and very little inside work going on. The men who have a job are compelled to lose a great deal of time, and wages are still on the decline. Lots of men are working for $1 25 and $1 50, but they are not union men. General Secretary McGuire speaks here Dec. 11th to stir up non-union men, and we will have a good turn out. Our ball on Nov. 19 proved to be beyond all our expectations.

Hamilton, Canada.

Tade is very dull; so dull that two-thirds of the carpenters are idle, and the few working are on eight hours There are carpenters if you can call them so, working here for their board and tobacco money. This shows you what we have to contend with Ontario Cotton Mills Co, are doing their best to get cheap labor and to reduce wages, but the labor unions are good and strong among the operators. Ship work will be very slack because the ship owners say they cannot pay 20 cents an hour, and wages must come down.

Cheyenne, Wyoming Ter.

The officers of Union No. 64 having resigned, the new officers are as follows: President, J. Isenburg; Vice-President, G. A Bitner; Rec. Sec., J. W. Willis, Fin. Sec., J. G. Pearce; Cor. Sec., J. C. Wheelon; Treasurer, J. A. Kennedy; Conductor, S. Golden; Trustees, W. S. Horn, G. A. Bitner and J. C. Wheelon. The building trade in Cheyenne is slacking up considerably and a number o our members have gone to other parts in hope of finding employment. There are between 90 and 100 carpenters in Cheyenne not including those employed by the railroad company.

Grand Rapids, Mich.

Our mass meeting here on Dec. 2 was addressed by General Secretary McGuire, and it is bound to result in good to our union. The street car drivers here two mothes ago got $11.48 a week for 6 days work, 16 hours perday; now they get $10 50 for 16 hours, 7 days in the week. Hence the trades unions of this city are boycotting the street railways, and we have started a co-operative line of busses against the street cars. Some time lately the 8-hour system was instituted in the furniture factories of this city, but recently Nelson, Matter & Co. violated the rule and endeavored to return to the 10 hour system by devious ways, which resulted in the men maintaining the 8-hour system. The bricklayers and masons of this city have reorganized their union and are working hand in hand with the carpenters. The ball given by Carpenters' union 65, on Nov. 12, was well attended.

Omaha, Neb.

Union No. 58 has appointed Bro. D. H. Mayne, as walking delegate, to look after delinquents and non-union men. We have also appointed stewards for each jobas far as we can. The thanks of our Union are due to our sister unions, in the following cities, for an interchange of correspondence, viz; Washington, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Toronto, DesMoines, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco Philadelphia, Detroit, Boston and Cleveland. This interchange of correspondence is good for all the unions, as it draws them closer to each other.

Work is gradually thinning down, so now we are endeavouring to consolidate our energies to keep up our membership and prevent men from taking a lower rate of wages, as it is detrimental to the men's interests. The bosses are striving to make a cut, and, in some instances, have succeeded. Union No. 58 gave a ball early in November, and it was a success although in a week of political excitement.

Leavenworth, Kan.

Trade prostrate. Wages $1.75 to $2.25. Average $2. Cost of living way up. More men than work. Over 100 men on the streets idle and number increasing. Union men are all at work. Very few buildings under way and they are small frames.

Portland, Oregon.

All this summer trade has been dull and has been getting worse ever since. For want of work many of our members have left the city. Wages $2.50 to $3 for ten hours. No pay here in comparison with living. Union men, however, keep up the pay in this city.

Scranton, Pa.

Work very dull; fully 1,500 men of all trades idle on the streets of this small city, and chances are it will be worse before winter is over. The few shops running are on nine hours, and the railroad shops are on eight hours. Wages for carpenters $1.75 to $2.50. If an organizer of your Brotherhood came here he would have a good field.

Des Moines, Iowa.

Only half of the Carpenters here are at work; times are very dull. Most of the contractors here are running on a small scale. Wages are falling, some are getting $2 50, but most are getting $2.25. Work runs at 59 hours per week but we expect soon to be reduced to eight hours per day on account of short days. Carpenters better stay away from Des Moines for work is scarce with prospects of being worse before spring.

Philadelphia, Pa.

On Dec. 6, we organized Branch 3 (Germans) at 5th street and Thompson, and it promises to be a grand success as the members in it seem to be fully aroused to the work, and are zealous men. Trade is dull, but a steady stream of initiations still pour into Union No 8. A circular has been issued advertising the employment bureau and office of our Walking Delegate, James Dey, and we have replies from some of the best bosses in the city. The city is overrun with idle men and they are still flocking in from the country. Times promise to be hard this winter.

Los Angeles, Cal.

In regard to the 9 hour movement, the plasterers were the pioneers, having established 8 hours last year and fifty cents per hour. The carpenters came next with a great army of 350 men, and more. Now the painters and bricklayers have followed suit, and so the log rolls on, till it will crush out every man that wants another man to work 10 hours for a day's pay. The different trades here are to have a union meeting this week to discuss the situation, and to provide an employment office for men and bosses belonging to the trades, and also a reading room. Business is quite dull here at present, and it seems non-union men have the preference with some bosses.

Baltimore, Md.

Between our builders and union journeymen carpenters the best feeling prevails; the former, also, have an organization, and nearly every builder of any reputation at all is connected therewith Union 29, is now a corporate body. The following named members were elected Trustees: J. W. Pugsley, J. H. Bond, R. H. Cunningham, H Hall, and D R. Whitney. We are in a flourishing condition, both financially and otherwise; large accessions continue to be made every meeting night to the roll of membership.

At a meeting of Union No. 29, Brotherhood of House Carpenters and Joiners of America, Monday evening, Nov. 10th, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It has pleased the Great Arbitrator of human affairs to remove from our midst our late esteemed brother, Patrick Kellila,

Resolved, That in his loss, while bowing in humble recognition to the will of Him who doeth all things well, that this Brotherhood has been deprived of most estimable member; the community of a worthy citizen; the craft of an honorable representative, and wife and children of a kind husband and father.

Resolved, That while we mourn the loss of our deceased brother, we feel consolation in knowing that he was ever faithful in the performance of those duties and obligations incident to full fellowship in the Brotherhood of which he was an honored member.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the bereaved family in their sad affliction, and command a reliance in that source of consolation where all blessings flow; from Him, who, noting the sparrow's fall, ever watches over the widow and fatherless.

Resolved, That this expression or sympathy and remembrance be presented to the family of our late brother, that our charter be draped in mourning for the space of thirty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes and published in the Baltimore *Labor Free Press*.

GEO. S. STEUART,
JAMES TURNER,
P. NOONAN,
Committee,

Bro. Kellila, the late deceased member of the above union, was not beneficial at the time of his death, and the Brotherhood could not therefore, according to the constitution, pay his widow the regular death benefit, $250. At a regular meeting of the Brotherhood, however, the sum of $75 dollars was donated to Mrs. Kellila, which amount was promptly paid over the next day by the committee named above.

Detroit, Mich.

Union No. 10 is now reorganized and is bound to succeed. The officers of the Bricklayers attended the first meeting and gave us a boom and now we meet every other Thursday evening at 133 Bates street. Our officers are: President, C. J. Tollfit; Rec. Sec., F. J. Carscadder; Cor. Sec. C. F. Schmidt; Treas., Louis N. Rabedeau; Sergeant at Arms, M. Tully.

San Francisco, Cal.

Trade is pretty dull, and the city over-run with idle men. Most of the union men are at work, though a good many are idle on account of men coming from the country overrunning the city and working for what they can get. Some are as low as $1.50 a day. We have had pretty bad luck in Union 22 lately, in losing some of our best members, called away to their last rest; we have also quite a long list of sick and accidents, and are liable to have a couple more deathe most any time.

It is with regret that we announce the death of Bro. Thos. O'Reilly, who died on October 19, 1884, of pneumonia, after six days' illness. He was the main support of an aged mother, a sister, a wife and six small children. He was one of the best men in our Union—a thorough union man and a hard worker for the cause every day of his life. As an evidence of the esteem in which we held him, it is sufficient to say that over $500 was voluntarily subscribed by members of our Union as a donation in aid of his family. We cherish his memory!

George T Gunn has been expelled for stealing tools from his fellow workmen and then pawning them. We secured him 15 months in the House of Correction for his crime.

Our journal, THE CARPENTER, is improving very much and our members are pleased with it.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

The public meeting on Nov. 16 was largely attended; in fact, every available place in the hall was occupied before the opening of the meeting. We sent postal card notices to every carpenter in the city. This drew them out. The interest manifested throughout the proceeeings was great, notwithstanding the fact that the meeting lasted from two until five o'clock. The Organization Committee of the Trades Assembly was present and each committeeman addressed the meeting. Bro. J. C. Stein presided and Robert Hammond as Secretary. Bros. Brethauer, Stuhlfauth, Woods and Rockwood addressed the meeting in English, and Bro. H. Behrens in German. The result of this meeting has been to increase our membership and to stiffen up our members. We will hold another meeting on Dec. 14.

November 18 we donated $25 to the Hocking Valley miners. On Nov. 25 the members who had old clothes to spare brought them to the meeting and they were sent on to the destitute miners. There was a big pile of them.

Trade is slacking up; wages $2 to $2.25. Union men get $2 50, and several large mills have cut their men (non-union) 25 cents per day.

The G. S. will address our public meeting in January next, and we are arranging an entertainment for none but union members to show our appreciation of their efforts the past year.

Washington, D. C.

Union No. 1 has gained over 150 new members the past few months and those newly initiated are deeply interested in our work. Union No. 1 gave a very enjoyable ball at Abner's hall on November 24 for the benefit of Bro. C. H. Goodman, who had been paralyzed for nearly a year. About $200 will be realized. Each dance was dedicated to some trade union of this city, the general officers of the Brotherhood coming in for a place on the programme. All union men are at work with few exceptions, though trade is poor.

We are waging a relentless boycott against the Washington & Georgetown R. R. Co., and it is sanctioned by the Federation of Trades in this city. This company hired scab carpenters, runs them on the piece-work system and refuses to hire union men. The stock is held mostly in New York and they are now commencing to "squeal." But we don't propose to let up on them as they were offered every inducement beforehand to do the fair thing. All the trades are giving us a hearty support. A herdic line has for a long time been run in opposition to the street railways, and this is being largely patronized by workingmen. It is also proposed to contract for a line of busses for the accommodation of laborers, morning and evening. Very few workingmen are now to be seen riding on these cars.

The coopers' fight with the Georgetown millers for using old and dirty barrels in place of new ones is going on quietly. Grocers who sell boycotted brands are careful to keep them out of sight, and it is understood the millers are now leaving off the stamp. One of the millers recently, in conversation with a citizen, who had himself had a severe dose of boycott, asked him for advise. "My advice is," said he, "that you give in. I lost $27,000 by the boycott against me, and I had to give in at last, and if you keep it up you will suffer for it."

John W. Carr, a boss painter, refused to hire union men. Our Carpenters' union and other trades went to the rescue. We boycotted Carr, and in thirty minutes he "weakened," and now he hires none but union men.

A. Sachs, the clothier, at request of Union No. 1, made it a condition in the contract for erection of his new building that none but union men be employed on it.

The power of the Boycott is Almighty!

THE AMERICAN TRADES CONGRESS.

The fourth annual Congress of the Federation of Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada, convened in Chicago October 7, 1884. The following International organizations were represented by delegates: The Typographical Union, Brotherhood of Carpenters, Cigar Makers, Lake Seamen, Amalgamated Engineers, Granite Cutters, Tailors, Furniture Workers and the Mule Spinners. Delegates were also present from the Illinois State Trades Assembly, the Printers Unions of Chicago, Cincinnati and Washington, the Cigars Makers of Chicago and Evansville, Ind., and the Trades Assemblies of Chicago, Washington, Cincinnati and Minneapolis. Several other local societies were represented. The delegate of the progressive cigar makers was rejected on the ground that the federation did not wish to encourage secession among labor unions. This was further supplemented by the insertion in the constitution of an article by which "local organizations who have seceded from their State, National, or International, organizations, shall be allowed no representation or recognition from this federation.

The annual report of the Legislative Committee was then read and proved to be very exhaustive. For want of space we will omit it until next month. As the entire proceedings will soon be in print and can be had at this office for five cents a copy, we will confine ourselves to a brief summary of the proceedings. Letters and telegrams were read from the Federated Trades Unions of France, and from New York and Paterson, N. J.

The following resolutions were adopted:

That the federation of trades in congress assembled recommend the several trades and occupations related together to unite for mutual help, especially the building trades, which should amalgamate in a building league in cities, and form an international organization to secure the wages of skilled labor against the importation from all parts of the country at the commencement of the building season.

That this congress recommends that a labor exchange be opened in every city and district which has a trades assembly for the purpose of acting as an intelligence office between employers and employed, and guarding against the confidence games of certain employment agencies which fleece men who seek work.

For the enforcement of the eight-hour law on all government work, and abolition of contract labor in penitentiaries, jails and reformatories.

(The above resolutions were presented by one of our delegates, Bro. Thos. P. Doran.)

For the appointment of Boards of Arbitration by States to decide between employer and employed whenever a strike is threatened.

For the appointment of a committee on statistics of child labor.

For legislation to regulate ill-ventilated and filthy workshops.

For the legal protection of apprentices.

Protesting against the President's neglect to appoint a Commissioner of Labor Statistics.

For the appointment of State mine inspectors.

For the passage of the Foran Bill for the protection of life and property on the lakes, and the bill against the importation of foreign labor under contract, also Senator George's Employers' Liability Act. Thanks were voted to all the Congressmen and Senators who actively interested themselves in behalf of labor measures.

A resolution censured the Supreme Court of New York for ruling the act to abolish cigar-making in tenement-houses as unconstitutional.

It was adopted as the sense of the Federation that it is the duty of unionists to work and vote for the election of political candidates who are proved friends of labor, and it advised the formation of committees in the different States to watch legislation.

The Legislative Committee was directed to communicate with the International and Progressive Unions of Cigarmakers and endeavor to unite them in one body.

Senator Blair is to be requested to introduce in Congress a joint resolution ordering the printing of 300,000 copies of the report of the Committee on Education and Labor, as presented at the last session; a few copies only having been then printed.

Four essays were handed in on the subject of "Trades-unions and Strikes." The committee is allowed ninety days in which to make the award of $50 offered by the Federation.

The first Monday in September was set apart as a National Labor Holiday and the boycott of the New York *Tribune* endorsed.

One of the most important acts of the convention was a proposed amendment to the constitution of the Federation. It aims to secure a closer unification of the unions and when ratified authorizes the Federation to levy an assessment of two cents per week upon all of its members in aid of approved "strikes and lock-outs," and fixes the weekly benefits at $3 per member. It clothes the Legislative Committee of the Federation with authority to adopt proper rules for the management of strikes or lock-outs legally sanctioned by the Federation. Application for aid can only be approved when such strike or lock-out has been in progress sixty days. A resolution was adopted that these laws shall be submitted to a vote of the organizations affiliated to the Federation. If ratified by a two-thirds vote of the actual membership it becomes a law.

The next, and by far the most important work of the Congress was the resolution:

That eight hours shall constitute a days labor from and after May 1st, 1886, and that we recommend to all labor organization throughout this jurisdiction, that they so direct their laws to conform to the resolution by the time named." It was urged in support of this resolution, that unless trades organizations take a decided step in the matter, that the reduction of the hours of labor will only continue to be one of those things which never take any definite shape, and if the trades unions desire definite action in the matter, the only way to test one's faith in the short hour movement, is to fix a date for its enforcement, and as another congress intervenes before the date fixed, a clearer idea of the practicability of the measure can be obtained and further action taken if necessary.

The revenue system of the Federation was remodeled. It was decided that the dues of the unions having 1,000 members or under, be $10 per annum; for those with over 1,000 members, one cent per member per annum; local, state and trades assemblies exceeding 1,000 in membership, $25.

The election of officers resulted: President, W. W. McClelland, New York; Secretary, Gabriel Edmonston, Washington; Vice Presidents, J. W. Smith, Springfield, Ill; Richard Powers, Chicago; J. O. Sullivan, Philadelphia; Fred Blend, Evansville, Ind.; W. B. Ogden, Cincinnati; Joseph Bernard, Milwaukee; Treasurer, Robert Howard, Fall River, Mass.

The Federation adjourned to meet at Washington, D. C, the second Tuesday in December, 1885.

It was resolved, That the best method to secure the organization and unification of labor on a sound financial basis, the adoption and enforcement of an efficient apprenticeship system, and the substitution of arbitration for strikes as an honorable means of securing an amicable settlement of all disputes and grievances between employers and employes, be made special subjects for discussion and action at the next session of the congress and that the officers of this body be requested to announce this fact to the labor organizations of the United States and Canada, with the request that the members thereof make these question a special study, so that their delegates will come prepared to intelligently discuss and act on them.

The sentiment of the majority of the trades unions represented in the Cincinnati Trades Assembly so far is against the two cents a week tax for a strike fund.

Prof. Huxley declares that in his voyage around the world, and in all studies of savage life, he found no people so miserable, wretched and degraded, as those who exist in the poorer quarters of London, and they are not members of trades unions.

Der Carpenter.

Cleveland, Dezember 1884.

Der Internationale Gewerkschafts-Congreß.

Der vierte Jahres-Congreß der „Federation of Trades and Labor-Unions of the United States and Canada" trat am 7. October in Chicago zusammen. Den uns zugegangenen Berichten über die Verhandlungen des Congresses entnehmen wir Folgendes:

Vertreten waren folgende Internationale Organisationen: die Typographical Union; die Cigarrenmacher Union, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Amalgamated Society of Engeneers, die Granit Cutter's Union, Möbelarbeiter, Schneider, Seeleute und Spinner Union.

Ferner waren vertreten: Trades and Labor Assemblies von Minneapolis, Chicago, Washington, Cincinnati und eine Assembly der Knights of Labor aus letzterer Stadt.

Das Legislativ Komite konstatirt in seinem Bericht, daß der ungünstige Verlauf unserer großen Strikes, als wie derjenige der Telegraphisten und der Spinner in Fall River sowie der jetzige Kampf der Kohlengräber im Hocking Thal, die Nothwendigkeit einer festeren Vereinigung aller Arbeiter klar machen. Die letzten 12 Monate seien denkwürdig für Fortschritte in dieser Richtung. Viele Organisationen seien entstanden und die bestehenden haben ihre Mitgliederzahl vermehrt. Das Komite empfiehlt die Anstellung eines Organisators, welcher die Central-Organisation repräsentiren soll.

In Bezug auf Strikes sagt das Komite, daß eine Uebereilung bei solchen verhütet werden sollte. Strikes seien industrielle Kriege, deren Folgen zu beklagen seien, die aber als das einzige Mittel gegen Willkür und Unterdrückung nicht immer zu verhüten seien. In den verschiedenen Gewerken des Landes haben im Laufe des letzten Jahres folgende Strikes stattgefunden:

Bergleute 9; Buchdrucker 6; Metallarbeiter 17; Lederarbeiter 15; Bauarbeiter 9; Eisenbahn-Angestellte 4; Textilarbeiter 10; Taglöhner 4; verschiedene Gewerbe 24. Von diesen Strikes waren 31 für die Ausständigen erfolgreich; 35 waren erfolglos; 5 wurden durch ein Compromiß beigelegt und von 27 ist das Resultat nicht bekannt. Durch diese 98 Strikes wurden 53,000 Arbeiter in Mitleidenschaft gezogen. 50 Ausstände richteten sich gegen eine Lohnherabsetzung; 7 bezweckten eine Lohnerhöhung; 3 die Feststellung eines Lohnsatzes; 5 die Entlassung von Nicht-Mitgliedern einer Union; 3 kürzere Arbeitszeit; 3 die Erlangung rückständigen Lohnes. Zwei richteten sich gegen die gezwungene Unterzeichnung eines Kontraktes und drei gegen Auflagen in der Werkstätte. Bei 22 war die Ursache nicht angegeben. Das Komite empfahl die Einführung einer sorgfältigen und eingehenden Strikes-Statistik.

In Bezug auf die Achtstundenfrage erklärt das Komite, daß keine andere Frage in größerem Maße die Aufmerksamkeit verdient. In Uebereinstimmung mit einem Beschlusse des letzten Congresses, wurden die National-Komite's der republikanischen und der demokratischen Partei ersucht, ihre Stellung gegenüber dem Achtstundengesetz zu erklären. Von dem einen lief gar keine und von dem andern eine ausweichende Anwort ein. Es ist offenbar unnütz, auf eine Gesetzgebung in dieser Hinsicht zu warten. Die Arbeiter müssen sich auf sich selbst verlassen hinsichtlich der Ergreifung und Durchführung der richtigen Maßnahmen.—Das Komite giebt dann eine Uebersicht über die Bemühungen zur Erlangung von Arbeitergesetzen, die in verschiedenen Staaten gemacht wurden.

In Bezug auf die Einführung der achtstündigen Arbeitszeit wurde durch Beschluß der 1. Mai 1886 als der Tag bestimmt, an dem alle zur Föderation gehörenden Organisationen die achtstündige Arbeitszeit einführen sollen.

Ein Beschluß, in welchem Präsident Arthur getadelt wird, weil er das Amt eines Sekretärs des nationalen Bureaus für Arbeits-Statistik noch nicht besetzt hat, wurde angenommen.

Beschlossen wurde ferner:

Die in Convention versammelte Föderation der Gewerkschaften von Amerika und Canada empfiehlt, daß die verschiedenen Geschäftszweige, welche mit einander verwandt sind, sich zum Zwecke gegenseitiger Hülfe vereinigen, besonders die Baugewerbe, welche in großen Städten eine Bau-Liga und eine internationale Organisation bilden sollten, um sich bei Beginn der Bausaison einen anständigen Tagelohn zu sichern.

Ein Begrüßungs-Schreiben der Socialistischen Arbeiterpartei Frankreichs wurde verlesen und mit allgemeinem Beifall aufgenommen. Der französische, sich socialistisch nennende Arbeiterverband, wünscht mit seiner Brüder-Organisation in Amerika die schon früher angeknüpften internationalen Beziehungen mehr zur Wirklichkeit zu machen und verlangte eine Antwort darauf. Ein Komite wurde beauftragt, eine zustimmende Antwort auszuarbeiten und dieselbe telegraphisch nach Frankreich zu übermitteln.

Das Komite über Platform und Prinzipienerklärung berichtete und wurde Folgendes angenommen: Die Prinzipienerklärung sagt u. A.:

Daß die Geschichte der Lohnarbeiter aller Länder eine Geschichte des fortwährenden Kampfes und des Elends ist, und daß dieser Kampf zwischen dem Kapitalisten und dem Arbeiter oder den Unterdrückern und den Unterdrückten von Jahr zu Jahr immer mehr an Heftigkeit zunimmt. Deshalb erachten es die Vertreter der Arbeiter von Nord-Amerika, in Convention versammelt, für die größte Nothwendigkeit, solche Maßregeln zu ergreifen, und solche Prinzipien unter dem Volke Amerikas zu verbreiten, welche es vereinigt und ihm für alle Zeiten die Anerkennung der Rechte sichert, zu denen dasselbe berechtigt ist.

Die Platfrom enthält folgende Forderungen:

1. Die strenge Durchführung des nationalen Achtstunden Gesetzes.
2. Die Schaffung von Staats- und Bundes-Gesetzen behufs Inkorporation von Gewerkschaften.
3. Die Schaffung eines Schulzwangs-Gesetzes.
4. Ein Gesetz, welches die Beschäftigung von Kindern unter 14 Jahren in Fabriken, Werkstätten und sonstigen Arbeitsplätzen verbietet.
5. Die Einführung von gleichmäßigen Lehrlings-Gesetzen.
6. Ein Gesetz, welches die kontraktliche Vergebung von Gefangenenarbeit in Strafanstalten verbietet.
7. Aufhebung des sogen. „Truck" Systems.
8. Die Schaffung eines Gesetzes, welches dem Arbeiter bei etwaigen Vorkommnissen das erste Anrecht auf die Erzeugnisse seiner Arbeit sichert.
9. Die Widerrufung des Verschwörungs-Gesetzes.
10. Die Anstellung eines Sekretärs für das nationale Bureau für Arbeits-Statistik.
11. Die Schaffung eines Gesetzes, durch welches die Incorporation von ausländischen Arbeitern unter Kontrakt verboten wird.
12. Die Aufhebung des Kontrakt-Systems bei Regierungsarbeiten.
13. Die Schaffung eines Haftpflichtgesetzes für Arbeitgeber.
14. Gehörige Vertretung in allen gesetzgebenden Körperschaften.

Im Anschluß an die Platform wurden noch folgende Resolutionen unterbreitet und angenommen:

Wir verlangen von den Gesetzgebungen der verschiedenen Staaten:

1. Die Annahme eines Gesetzes zur Lizensirung von Dampfmaschinen und die Einführung von Regeln, durch welche Leben und Eigenthum besser geschützt werden.
2. Strenge Gesetze für die Inspektion und Ventilation von Minen, Fabriken und Werkstätten und die sanitäre Beaufsichtigung von allen Nahrungsmitteln und Wohnhäusern.

Ferner wurde beschlossen:

Daß die Körperschaft von ihren Vertretern in der Nationalen Gesetzgebung verlangt, daß diese alle Landverwilligungen, welche nicht von Eisenbahn- oder anderen Corporationen erwirkt sind, für verfallen erklärt und dieselben der öffentlichen Domaine wieder einverleibt.

Der Organisationsplan umfaßt folgende Punkte von Wichtigkeit:

Die Anregung und Bildung von Trades und Labor Assemblies oder Councils.

Die Anregung und Bildung von Staats- und Provinzial-Föderationen und Gewerkschaften.

Die Anregung und Bildung von nationalen und internationalen Gewerkschaften.

In Bezug auf Strikes wurde beschlossen, daß bei den von der Föderation anerkannten Strikes die Ausstehenden eine Unterstützung von $3. per Woche erhalten sollen, zu welchem Zwecke dem Comite für Gesetzgebung die Macht verliehen ist, eine Steuer von 2 Cents pro Mitglied von allen unter der Botmäßigkeit der Föderation stehenden Gewerkschaften zu erheben, doch soll kein Gesuch um Gewährung des Benefits im Strike oder Lockout berücksichtigt werden, wenn derselbe von einer Nationalen oder Internationalen Behörde der betreffenden Organisation nicht anerkannt ist, und wenn der Strike oder Lockout nicht bereits 60 Tage gedauert hat.

Die Beiträge betragen für jede Organisation von tausend Mitgliedern oder weniger, 10 Dollars per Jahr und 1 Cent für jedes Mitglied über tausend; doch soll in keinem Fall der Beitrag 25 Dollars übersteigen.

Beschlossen wurde ferner, Senator Blair zu ersuchen, im Congreß zu beantragen, daß der Bericht des Senats-Komite's für Arbeit und Erziehung in 300,000 Exemplaren gedruckt und unter die Arbeiter-Organisationen des Landes vertheilt werden. Ferner, daß das Obergericht des Staates New York wegen seiner Entscheidung, daß das Gesetz gegen die Cigarren-Fabrikation in Miethshäusern unconstitutionell sei, hiermit getadelt wird.

Die Wahl der Beamten für das neue Jahr hatte folgendes Resultat: W. W. McClelland, New York, Präsident; James W. Smith, Springfield, Jll.; Richard Powers, Chicago; James O'Sullivan, Philadelphia; Fred. Blend, Evansville, Jnd; William B. Ogden, Cincinnati, und Joseph Bernard, Milwaukee, Vice-Präsidenten; Gabriel Edmonston, Washington, Sekretär; Robert Howard, Fall River, Schatzmeister.

Der nächste Congreß wird in Washington, D. C., am zweiten Dienstag im Dezember des nächsten Jahres stattfinden.

AN EMPLOYER W… REDUCED …

BEST SECURITY AND PROTECTION. Judge Thomas M. Cooley of the Su-

FEELINGS OF A SCAB. We would like to know the thought

Neues von überall her.

Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Geschäft gut; alle Union-Mitglieder beschäftigt. Durchschnittslohn $2.50 per Tag.

Columbus, Ohio.

Die „Case Manufacturing Co." hat die Löhne um 10 Prozent erhöht. Viele Mitglieder von Union No. 61 arbeiten für jene Firma.

Eau Claire, Wis.

Die Löhne sind hier niedrig, von $1.75 bis $2.25 und einige erhalten $2.50 per Tag, im Durchschnitt ungefähr $2.00 per Tag. Es sind mehr Zimmerleute hier als Arbeit, und viele derselben werden diesen Winter hungern müssen.

Charleston, S. C.

Arbeit sehr flau, Aussichten schlecht, Mitglieder bezahlen ihre Rückstände aus Furcht, ihre Anrechte auf Unterstützung zu verlieren für den Fall, daß es irgend welche Störung geben sollte.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Union No. 9 ist der Brüderschaft wieder beigetreten und beabsichtigt, der guten Sache nach Kräften zu dienen. Geschäfte sind schlecht; Lohn $2.25 per Tag.

Toronto, Canada.

Arbeit langsam, Lohn $2.00, sehr wenig Unionleute beschäftigungslos. General Vize-Präsident Alex Edgar versucht Peterboro zu organisiren. Unsere Union befürwortet die Aufnahme von Holzmaschinen-Arbeiter in die Brüderschaft.

Austin, Texas.

Arbeit flau, Lohn $2 bis $2.75; mehr wie 75 beschäftigungslose Zimmerleute in der Stadt; die Zahl derselben nimmt zu und es wird sehr wenig gebaut. Bis diese Stadt von einer guten Carpenters Union beschützt wird, haben wir nur schlechte Löhne zu erwarten. Das Gesetz der Brüderschaft gegen Stückarbeit ist eine sehr gute Sache um unser Gewerk zu schützen.

Portland, Oregon.

Unsere Union ist jetzt incorporirt. Geschäfte verschlechtern sich; es sind hier zwanzig Mann für einen Platz, so viele Arbeiter sind letzten Sommer hierher gekommen und es wird nicht ein Drittel so viel gebaut wie letztes Jahr. Dieser Winter wird ein sehr harter werden; Löhne $2.50 und $3 per Tag, während die Lebensmittel noch eben so hoch sind wie je zuvor.

Tekamah, Nebr.

Dies ist ein im Wachsen begriffener Platz, aber trotzdem daß viel Arbeit vorhanden ist, sind doch zuviel Arbeiter hier. Es werden hauptsächlich Framehäuser und einige Backsteinhäuser gebaut. Es sind Aussichten vorhanden, hier, in Sioux City und einigen anderen Städten Iowas Unions zu gründen. Die besten Arbeiter verdienen $2.50, andere $2.

Pensacola, Fla.

Geschäfte sind mittelmäßig; Löhne $2 bis $3 per Tag.

Boston, Mass.

Arbeit gut; Löhne $2.50 bis $3. Alle Union-Mitglieder haben Arbeit, doch sind viele Leute beschäftigungslos.

Correspondenz aus Deutschland.

Berlin, 28. Oktober 1884. Eine Conferenz von Delegaten der süddeutschen Carpenter Unions wurde am 19.—21. Oktober in Mannheim abgehalten und war gut besucht. Die Nationale Gewerkschaft der Zimmerleute Deutschlands hat jetzt 3700 Mitglieder und neue Unions werden fortwährend gegründet. In Hamburg findet ein Streik der Zimmerleute gegen eine Lohnreduktion in einer der größten Werkstätten statt.

Während den beiden letzten Monaten haben wir die folgenden Unions aufgenommen und Charters bewilligt: No. 75 Eau Claire, Wis., No. 76 New Orleans, La. (weiß), No. 77 Battle Creek, Mich., No. 78 Troy, N. Y., No. 78 Richmond, Ind., und wir werden bald deutsche Unions in Chicago und Rochester, N. Y., haben, während Buffalo Union No. 9 wieder aufgenommen und Detroit Union No. 10 reorganisirt wurde, nachdem letztere zwei Jahre lang geschlafen.

Brüderschafts-Notizen.

— In Oshkosh, Wis., wird von einer Zimmermanns-Union gesprochen.

— Union No. 64, Grand Rapids, ist im besten Aufschwung begriffen.

— Washington Union No. 1 nimmt an Mitgliederzahl in riesiger Weise zu.

— Sieben aus acht Carpenters in Des Moines, Iowa, sind außer Beschäftigung.

— Die Majorität unserer Unions nehmen jetzt $2.00 für Aufnahmegebühren und 50 Cts. monatliche Beiträge.

— Die Anthracite Minen in Pennsylvanien sind am Danksagungstage in Ruhe gesetzt worden und werden bis zum 7. Dezember so verbleiben.

— Unsere neue Exekutiv-Behörde ist erwählt und an der Arbeit, wie aus den Berichten derselben in diesem Blatte jeden Monat zu ersehen ist.

— Die von unserer Cincinnatier Convention angenommene neue Constitution wurde von einer großen Majorität der Mitglieder adoptirt und ist jetzt in Kraft.

— Viele Mitglieder der Union No. 45, Seattle, Wash. Ter., wandern nach anderen Plätzen aus wegen Mangel an Arbeit. Die Union jedoch wurde am 1. October 1884 reorganisirt.

— Die Neun-Stunden-Regel wird von Arbeitgebern in Pittsburg sehr günstig beurtheilt, besonders in Lokomotiv- und Eisenbahn-, sowie in einigen der kleineren Fabriken.

— Unserer Brüderschaft wurde seitens der Föderation der Gewerkschaften ein großes Compliment gemacht durch die Erwählung von G. Edmondston, von Washington, D. C., zum Sekretär des Legislatur-Committees.

— Warum arbeiten die Arbeiter das ganze Jahr hindurch nicht für die Gewerkschaften, wie viele derselben für Politik vor der Wahl? Würden sie dieses thun, so könnte man eine andere Geschichte von ihrer Lage erzählen.

— Union No. 8, Philadelphia, Pa., prosperirt und führt durchschnittlich fünfundzwanzig neue Mitglieder in jeder Versammlung ein, unter welchen viele alte Mitglieder sich befinden, welche rückständig wurden. Dieses sind die Früchte von Br. Jas. Dey's Arbeit als "Walking Delegate".

— Wir bemerken, daß, wenn immer ein Todesfall in einer unserer Unions vorkommt, die Mitglieder sich beeilen, ihre Rückstände zu bezahlen, damit sie nicht außer Benefit kommen. Darin besteht der Vortheil des Unterstützungs-Systems, daß die Mitglieder es in ihrem eigenen Interesse finden, pünktlich zu bezahlen.

— Wir sehen keinen triftigen Grund, warum irgend ein Lohnarbeiter sich einer politischen Partei anschließen sollte. Keine politische Partei hat etwas für die Lohnarbeiter gethan. Alles, was bis jetzt zu Gunsten der Arbeiter geschehen, ist ausschließlich der Organisation derselben zuzuschreiben, sowie dem guten Willen einzelner Individuen.

— Nach langem Kampfe haben endlich die Maurer New-Yorks ihren Streik als beendet erklärt und haben praktisch das Neun-Stunden-System, mit Ausnahme einiger kleiner „Jobs", gewonnen. Die Steinmaurer, welche ausgesperrt wurden, weil sie die Maurer unterstützten, sind unter den von ihnen selbst gestellten Bedingungen an die Arbeit zurückgekehrt.

— Die Telegraphisten organisiren sich wieder und der Name ihrer Organisation ist „Brüderschaft der Telegraphisten." Diesesmal verlassen sie sich auf sich selber und sind überzeugt, daß es deshalb nothwendig ist, hohe Beiträge zu bezahlen und einen starken Fond zu gründen, um im Stande zu sein, ihre eigenen Schlachten zu schlagen.

— Die Carpenter Union von Baltimore, Md., hat einen nachahmungswerthen Schritt gethan, um der Ueberfüllung des Arbeitsmarktes entgegenzuwirken. Dieselbe hat eine Regel angenommen, daß kein Mitglied der Union mit Lehrlingen zusammen arbeiten darf, welche ihre früheren Lehrmeister ohne gute und genügende Gründe verlassen haben. Dieses wird verhindern, daß Jungens, welche sich einige Handgriffe angewöhnt haben, sich als Gesellen ausgeben.

— Union No. 2, Cincinnati, O., beklagt sich darüber, daß diese Stadt mit Zimmerleuten überfüllt ist, von welchen viele reisende Brüder anderer Unions sind. Die meisten dieser Reisenden, welche dorthin und nach anderen Städten kommen, sind total „abgebrannt" und wünschen von den Mitgliedern Geld zu borgen. Wir verdammen diese Praxis und glauben, die selbe sollte als unzulässig angesehen werden, da wir nicht wünschen, daß unsere Mitgliedervon diesen Reisenden gebrandschatzt werden. Das einzige Mittel dagegen ist, borgt ihnen kein Geld. Thut ihr es aber doch, so müßt ihr eben das Risiko selber tragen.

Für Zimmerleute allerwärts.

In keinem Industriezweig sind gemeinsames Handeln und energische Anstrengungen von Seiten der Arbeiter, um eine Besserung ihrer Lage herbeizuführen und sich solidarisch zum gegenseitigen Schutz zu verbinden, nothwendiger als unter den Bauschreinern.

Herbeiführen dieses gemeinsamen Handelns und Inangriffnahme und Durchführung der im Interesse der Arbeiter nothwendigen Maßnahmen ist der Zweck der Brüderschaft der Bauschreiner und Zimmerleute.

Dieselbe unterhält zu dem Zweck ein offizielles Fachorgan, „Der Carpenter," welches jeden Monat erscheint. Durch dasselbe wird die Verbindung zwischen Lokal-Vereinen und Mitgliedern aufrecht erhalten und wichtige Vorkommnisse zu deren Kenntniß gebracht.

Die Brüderschaft unterhält einen Fond zur Unterstützung ihrer Mitglieder in Streiks und Lockouts.

Sie unterhält in verschiedenen Lokal-Unionen eine Kasse für Unterstützung ihrer Mitglieder in Krankheitsfällen.

Sie unterhält ferner eine Kasse für Unterstützung in Sterbefällen. Die Frau eines daran betheiligten Mitgliedes erhält bei dessen Tod die Summe von $250.00 ausbezahlt. Beim Sterbefall der Frau erhält der Mann $50.00.

Die Brüderschaft ist eine Verbindung von Lokal-Vereinen in allen Theilen des Landes. Dieselben bilden einen Kern von tüchtigen Arbeitern und erprobten Mitgliedern, deren feste Ueberzeugung für die Nothwendigkeit einer starken Vereinigung aller Fachgenossen auf Erfahrung begründet ist.

Dieselbe Nothwendigkeit existirt an jedem Ort für Jedermann.

Die Möglichkeit für Gründung und Erhaltung eines Lokal-Vereins der Brüderschaft der Bauschreiner und Zimmerleute ist überall vorhanden, wo unsere Industrie vertreten ist und triftige Gründe, derselben fern zu bleiben, sind für keinen Zimmermann vorhanden.

Jeder Bauschreiner, Treppenbauer, Zimmermann u. s. w., an dessen Ort eine Carpenter-Union besteht, welcher er bisher aus Vorurtheil oder anderen Gründen ferngeblieben ist, setze sich einmal darüber hinweg, trete der Union näher, mache sich mit ihrem wirklichen Wesen und Wirken vertraut und erwäge dann ehrlich, ob seine Vorurtheile und Gründe stichhaltig sind.

Jeder Zimmermann, welcher unserem Verband noch ferne steht, suche deren Anschluß zu bewirken; denn nur, wenn wir durchs ganze Land vereinigt sind, können wir unser Ziel erreichen. Hierauf bezügliche Fragen zu beantworten und Aufschlüsse zu geben, sind wir stets bereit.

Jeder Zimmermann, an dessen Ort eine Union noch nicht besteht, versuche eine solche als Zweig unserer Organisation zu gründen. Er setze sich zunächst mit uns in Verbindung, worauf wir ihn mit Rath und That unterstützen werden.

Wer nicht in der Lage ist, selbst die Initiative zur Gründung einer Union ergreifen zu können, der setze sich nichtsdestoweniger mit uns in Verbindung oder sende uns Adressen Anderer, an welche wir uns wenden können. Eine Anzahl Nummern des „Carpenter" für Agitationszwecke können stets gratis durch uns bezogen werden.

Das Exekutiv-Comite der Brüderschaft der Bauschreiner und Zimmerleute

P. J. McGuire, Gen.-Sekr.

Lock Box 180, Cleveland, O.

Lernen aus ihrer Niederlage.

Trotz Niederlage und Verfolgung erhalten die Spinner in Fall River ihre Organisation aufrecht und bauen ihren Fond wieder auf; aus ihren niedrigen Löhnen bezahlen sie monatlich 1 Dollar in die Unionkasse. Dies ist ein empfehlenswerthes Beispiel für andere Gewerkschaften, um so mehr, da die Spinner während ihres Streiks, welcher mehrere Monate dauerte, gelitten haben. Sie haben gelernt, was alle anderen bald lernen werden, daß Organisationen mit hohen Beiträgen und einem starken Unterstützungsfond die einzigen Vertheidigungswaffen gegen die Bosse sind. Während andere Gewerkschaften nach einer Niederlage entmuthigt sein würden, verwenden sie ihre ganze Aufmerksamkeit auf die Frage, auf welche Weise sie am besten ihre Organisation vervollständigen können. Dies ist der einzige, richtige Weg, wie sie sich vor weiteren Bedrückungen beschützen können.

— Von Philadelphia wird uns Folgendes berichtet: Es gibt mehr Arbeitslose in u… bei Philadelphia gegenwärtig, denn zur Zeit der „Panic-Periode".

Aufruf.

Genossen, gedenkt Eurer Brüder im Hockingthale! Der Winter bricht mit Macht herein, sie hungern und frieren; sie führen einen ehrenvollen Kampf, nicht nur für sich, sondern als leuchtendes Beispiel für alle ihre Genossen. Sollen die kapitalistischen Blutsauger triumphiren?! — Die „Central Labor Union" von New-York und Philadelphia haben Subscriptionen für die Strikenden eröffnet.

Jeder Arbeiter sollte nach Möglichkeit sein Scherflein beitragen.

Beiträge zu diesem Zweck werden durch den „Carpenter" entgegengenommen und in demselben quittirt. Dieselben werden direkt an die richtige Stelle befördert.

Fort mit den Pinkerton'schen Provokateuren.

Der korrespondirende Sekretär der Trades Assembly von Cincinnati ist angewiesen worden, alle Trades Unions im Staate zu ersuchen, vom Gouverneur des Staates auf Grund der Constitution die Entfernung der Pinkerton's Detektives aus dem Hockingthale zu verlangen. Die Constitution des Staates verbietet nämlich Privatcorporationen die Einführung bewaffneter Mannschaften aus anderen Staaten und Pinkerton's Detektives sind keine Bürger von Ohio.

Eine glänzende Genugthuung.

Obwohl die verschiedensten Gründe für die Niederlage Blaine's angegeben werden, so dürfte doch keiner derselben evidenter bewiesen sein, als daß Blaine durch die Agitation der New Yorker Typographical Union mit ihrem „Boycotter" zu Falle gebracht wurde. Gering gerechnet kostete Blaine der Streik der „N. Y. Tribune" mit der englischen Union 45,000 Stimmen im Staate New York.

Die republikanische Partei konnte nicht ändern, daß St. John candidirte, daß in den eigenen Reihen ein Abfall stattfand; sie konnte aber 4 Wochen vor der Wahl mit dem Boycotter und der New Yorker Setzer-Union Frieden schließen und so die Stimmen gewinnen, welche ihr jetzt zum Verhängniß geworden sind. Eine glänzendere Genugthuung hat noch keine Gewerkschaft errungen.

Sträflings-Arbeit in Minnesota.

St. Paul, Minn. Arbeit wird bereits flau, woran größtentheils das Sträflings-Contrakt-System in Minnesota Schuld ist. Fast alle Innenseite Arbeit, welche in St. Paul und Minneapolis gebraucht wird, wird im Staats-Zuchthause gemacht. Die herrlichen Gesetze Minnesotas geben die gute Arbeit den geliebten Sträflingen, während die ehrlichen, gesetzliebenden Bürger mit der rauhen und schlechten Arbeit vorlieb nehmen müssen, die Querbalken hantiren, Fußboden legen und im heißen Sonnenbrand im Sommer und bei Sturm und Wetter im Winter arbeiten müssen, halb gekleidet und schlecht genährt, während der Sträfling vor der Sonne geschützt und im Winter in warmen, mit Dampf geheizten „Shops" arbeitet und Arbeit hat, welche ein ehrlicher Carpenter mit Freuden thun würde, und welche uns von Rechtswegen gehört. Das ist die Lage der Carpenter in Minnesota. Die Carpenters von St. Paul haben dieses nie einsehen können bis sie sich organisirten. Es ist merkwürdig, was eine Organisation zu Stande bringen kann. Jetzt wird diese Frage in der Trades Assembly besprochen, und mit deren Hülfe werden wir das Sträflings-Contrakt-System brechen. Wir werden wenigstens unser Möglichstes versuchen.

— Der Schutzzoll ist nur für die Fabrikanten, denn die meisten Arbeiter der beschützten Industrien, wie die Eisenarbeiter, hungern und darben bei niedrigem Lohn und europäischer Bauerarbeit. Dem Schutzzoll der Fabrikanten ist der Schutzzoll des 8-stündigen Arbeitstages, der Beseitigung der Kinder- und Beschränkung der Frauenarbeit etc., gegenüberzusetzen, und um dies zu erreichen, müssen sich die Arbeiter dieses Landes organisiren.

— Die Ziegelmaurer in New York arbeiten 9 Stunden per Tag. „Black Legs" wird diese Gratifikation nicht zu Theil.

— In Oldham, England, sind wegen des schlechten Geschäftsganges die Löhne der Baumwollenspinner um fünf Prozent reduzirt worden.

Death Assessments.

No. 28—DAVID ENNIS, Union No. 35, San Rafael, Cal., aged 36, died by the accidental discharge of a gun, Oct. 6, 1884.

No. 29—THOMAS O'REILLY, Union No. 22, San Francisco, Cal., aged 36 years, died of pneumonia, Oct. 20, 1884.

No. 30—JOHN HUGHES, Union No. 22, San Francisco, Cal., aged 48 years, died of pleurisy, Nov. 8, 1884.

NOTICE TO LOCAL UNIONS—Each Union is hereby notified to levy an assessment of 10 cents upon each one of their members to pay the death benefits due the heirs of the above named deceased. See Art. II, Sec. 6, Page 15 of the Constitution. The new law is now in effect and must be observed.

(Signed) P. J. MCGUIRE, Gen. Sec.

Acknowledgement.

To the Officers and Members of the Brotherhood:

Gentlemen—I have this day received a draft for the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250) due on the death of J. Eissinger, late a member of Toledo Union No. 25, and the full amount has been paid by me to the proper heirs. JOHN KLUETER,

Toledo, O., Nov. 26, 1884. Fin. Sec. Union 25.

Expulsions.

JOHN S. HEWSON, from Chicago Union No. 21, for conduct unbecoming a member.

GEO T. GUNN, from San Francisco Union No. 22, for stealing tools

W. S. VANAMAN, from Eau Claire Union No. 75, for misappropriating funds.

Personals.

BRO. GUSTAV LUEBKERT is still located on his farm, near Parkersburg, W. Va., and is nearly restored to good health. For over three years he has been more than half the time in bed with malaria.

BRO. DAVID ADAM, cor. sec. Union No. 46, Guelph, Canada, lost his youngest son, of diptheria, last month (Oct.) Work dull, prospects bad, more bosses than journeymen.

BRO. L. E. PAKE, formerly of Chicago Union No. 21, has removed to Colton, Southern California. He has already laid the foundation for a Union in San Bernardino Cal, and one in Albuquergue, New Mexico. Lem was always a hard, earnest worker for the B., and in his new home he promises to be none the less active. He writes that trade is very dull in that section.

Our friend and co-worker, JOHN EHMANN, who has contributed, at times, some very able articles to this journal, is now engaged in the safe and lock business, in Wheeling, W. Va.

Houston, Texas.

Trade is very dull here and contractors are reducing wages wherever they can.

Tekamah, Neb.

There is not much work here, and money very scarce. Corn 15 cents a bushel, wheat 25 cents. The hog cholera has ruined the farmers and helped to prostrate business. It is hard to get union ideas into the average American carpenter, as they have let the trade get down so low as to despair of ever elevating it again. Some here, however, propose to start a union in the spring. Blair, West Point and Sioux City are being worked on by me for to organize. ED. BATES.

Charleston, S. C.

Union No. 52 is still gaining new members and many more to come. Work is very scarce in this city and a great many union men are out of employment and gone to Florida and other points further south. Many non-union men, too, are idle. Wages from $2 down to $1 75 for ten hours. We can't make more than nine hours a day. We expect to have a grand public meeting some time in December for the purpose of stirring up the white and colored carpenters in this city and see whether there is any hope of them or not. A union, in Columbia, S. C., will soon be formed.

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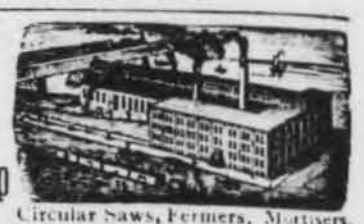

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